

# ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2022



*Deliver*

Luke 4:17-18

The Spirit of the Lord is on me  
and anointed me to bring good news to the poor,  
proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind,  
to let the oppressed go free and to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor.

**THE UNITED METHODISTS OF GREATER NEW JERSEY**  
PRE-CONFERENCE WORKBOOK  
MAY 23 - 24, 2022

# JOURNEY *of Hope*



**Honor the humanity, racial identity, uniqueness and sacred worth of everyone as we live out our baptismal vow.**

**Learn more about the  
Journey of Hope to End the Sin of Racism.**

**FOR MORE DETAILS**

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## GNJ Annual Conference Voting Bands

VOTING BAND	WHO	RIGHTS
	<p>Elected Lay Member by each charge</p> <p>Diaconal Ministers</p> <p>Active Deaconesses</p> <p>Home Missioner under episcopal appointment in GNJ</p> <p>Conference UMW President</p> <p>Conference UMM President</p> <p>Conference Lay Leader</p> <p>District Lay Leaders</p> <p>Conference Director of Lay Servant Ministries</p> <p>Young Adult Organization Officer</p> <p>Youth Organization President</p> <p>Young Person age 18-30 per District</p> <p>Young Person age 12-17 per District</p> <p>College Student Organization Chair</p> <p>GNJ Global Ministries Secretary (if lay)</p> <p>At Large Members</p> <p>¶602.4 / ¶602.6*</p>	<p>May vote on all matters except:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Granting or validation of license, ordination, reception into full conference membership, or any question concerning the character and official conduct of ordained ministers.</li> </ul> <p>*Lay members who are elected members of the Conference Board of Ordained Ministry and committee on investigation can vote on all matters of ordination, character, and conference relations of clergy.</p>
	<p>Full members (Elder and Deacons / ¶602.1a</p>	<p>May vote on all matters except:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Election of lay delegates to General, jurisdiction or central conferences.</li> </ul>
	<p>Associate Members ¶602.1c*</p>	<p>May vote on all matters except:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- constitutional amendments</li> <li>- and matters of ordination, character, and conference relations of clergy.</li> </ul> <p>*Associated Members that are elected members of the Conference Board of Ordained Ministry, have the right to vote at <b>clergy session</b> on matters of ordination, character, and conference relations of clergy.</p>
	<p>Provisional Members (<i>under appointment to a pastoral charge who have completed educational requirements towards ordination</i>) ¶602.1b</p>	<p>May vote on all matters of the annual conference, except:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- constitutional amendments,</li> <li>- and matters of ordination, character, and conference relations of clergy.</li> </ul>
	<p>Full Time/ Part Time Local Pastors (<i>under appointment to a pastoral charge who</i></p>	<p>May vote on all matters except:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- constitutional amendments</li> </ul>

	<p><i>have completed course of study or an M.Div. degree and have served a minimum of two consecutive years under appointment before the election)**</i> ¶602.1d</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- and matters of ordination, character, and conference relations of clergy.</li> </ul> <p>** Licensed Local Pastors that are elected members of the Conference Board of Ordained Ministry, have the right to vote at <b>clergy session</b> on matters of ordination, character, and conference relations of clergy.</p>
	<p>Provisional Members (<i>under appointment to a pastoral charge who have not completed educational requirements toward ordination</i>) ¶602.1b</p>	<p>May vote on all matters except:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- constitutional amendments,</li> <li>- election of clergy delegates to the General/Jurisdictional/ Central Conferences and</li> <li>- matters of ordination, character, and conference relations of clergy.</li> </ul>
	<p>Affiliate Members ¶602.1.c</p>	<p>May vote on all matters except:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- constitutional amendments,</li> <li>- election of delegates to the General/Jurisdictional/ Central Conferences and</li> <li>- matters of ordination, character, and conference relations of clergy.</li> </ul>
	<p>Full Time/ Part Time Local Pastors (<i>under appointment to a pastoral charge who have not completed course of study or an M.Div. degree</i>) ¶602.1d</p>	<p>May vote on all matters except:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- constitutional amendments,</li> <li>- election of delegates to the General/Jurisdictional/ Central Conferences and</li> <li>- matters of ordination, character, and conference relations of clergy.</li> </ul>
	<p>Retired Local Pastors ¶320.5</p>	<p>May attend Annual Conference sessions with voice, but not vote.</p>
	<p>Interim Supply Pastors ¶602.9</p>	<p>No vote and no voice unless granted on the floor of the Annual Conference.</p>
	<p>Visitors Student Pastors (whose membership are in other conference) Lay Missionaries Members of other Conferences</p>	<p>No vote and no voice unless granted on the floor of the Annual Conference.</p>
	<p>GNJ Staff Members</p>	<p>No vote and no voice unless granted on the floor of the Annual Conference.</p>
	<p>Official Guest and Episcopal Staff</p>	<p>No vote and no voice unless granted on the floor of the Annual Conference.</p>



## Welcome from Bishop Schol

*The Spirit of the Lord is upon me  
and anointed me to bring good news to the poor,  
proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind,  
to let the oppressed go free and to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor.*  
-Jesus, Luke 4:17-18

Friends in Christ,

Jesus was sent to **deliver** people from death to life and resurrection, and to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor. Today, as the body of Christ, we are called to continue to fulfill the mission of Jesus Christ. Like Jesus, in the midst of challenging times, you have continued to proclaim Good News and **deliver** people from fear to hope, from death to life. Thank you.

The theme for the 23rd Greater New Jersey Annual Conference Session on May 23-24, 2022, is **Deliver**. God has and continues to deliver us through the work of Christ, and we continue to do the work and mission of Jesus in the world.

We will gather for worship, holy conferencing, and discernment as we review our progress. We will give thanks for those who served among us and now share in eternal glory, commission, ordain and elect the next generation of leaders.

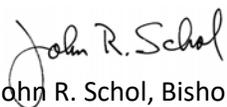
We will also discuss important business, charting and securing a sustainable future mission. We will review progress on A Journey of Hope, our strategic plan, congregational vitality, and sustainability, the 2023 budget, elect new leaders, and hear how leadership will lead our Way Forward.

To prepare for our conferencing together I invite you to:

1. Start with prayer. Pray that God will bless our time together. Pray for healing and renewal of the Wesleyan Path and pray for our ministry together.
2. Share with your congregation. Use the reports in this workbook to share about our ministries, to celebrate the lay and clergy members who are honored.
3. Engage with your congregation the legislation that will be before us.

I look forward to joining with you in holy conferencing as we move forward following Christ Jesus, and the path God continues to set for us.

Keep the faith!

  
John R. Schol, Bishop

## Welcome from Conference Secretary

Dear Annual Conference Lay and Clergy Members,

Welcome to the 2022 Greater New Jersey Annual Conference!

This 2022 Pre-Conference Workbook will serve as a valuable resource for you to use as an active member of the 2022 Annual Conference Session. Please have it available as you attend the conference. As an alternative, the Pre-Conference Workbook is available online and can be downloaded on the GNJ website.

Included in these pages are reports, legislation and nominations received for consideration at Annual Conference. We have included all legislation submitted by the deadline of February 1. If this is your first Annual Conference as an active member, the Rules of Order will assist you following the business of the Annual Conference. We hope the workbook will be helpful as you share with your congregation and join in the worship, business, fellowship, and celebration at the 2022 Greater New Jersey Annual Conference.

The Information Sessions will be held at 3:30 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. on Monday, May 9.

The Clergy Session will begin at 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, May 12.

The Annual Conference will start at 8:30 a.m. on Monday, May 23. Please see the agenda in this booklet for the complete conference schedule.

My thanks to members and agencies that submitted reports and legislation, CORR and COSROW for overseeing the Implicit Bias review process and the conference staff for your commitment to excellence.

I look forward to greeting you on Monday, May 23, as we gather to address the business of the conference and celebrate the ways that we will fulfill our mission to Make Disciples of Jesus Christ for the Transformation of the World.

In Christ,

Rev. Shelley S. Smith, Conference Secretary

### **Reports and Resolutions:**

Although reports and resolutions may be amended by members within the bar of Annual Conference, we urge those wishing to amend a resolution to contact the chairperson/originator of the report/resolution prior to the beginning of Annual Conference to work out a mutually agreeable revision. For the sake of time management, we encourage you to give your attention to this important detail.

### **Clergy Members Unable to Attend the Annual Conference or Clergy Session:**

If any clergy member is unable to attend the Annual Conference, please notify the conference secretary of your absence by email.

### **Elected Lay Members Unable to Attend All Sessions:**

If for any reason the elected Lay Member can no longer be seated at the Annual Conference, the elected Lay Member has the responsibility to pass on the Pre-Conference Workbook and any other program materials to the elected Alternate (Reserve) Lay Member.



23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Conference Session for United Methodists of Greater New Jersey  
May 23-24, 2022

## Agenda

### Monday, May 23

- 9:00 a.m. Episcopal Address
- 9:20 a.m. Organizing the Conference
- 9:30 a.m. Legislation and & Reports: Committee on Nominations p. 17,  
Conference Advanced Specials p. 23, Trustees Enabling Resolutions p. 24,  
Church Closures p. 26, Board of Pension and Health Benefits Recommendation p. 26
- 10:15 a.m. Leadership Report
- 10:45 a.m. Legislation & Reports: 2023 Budget p. 28, 2022 Budget Addendum p. 31,  
Local Church Contributions to the BSA Bankruptcy Settlement p. 33
- 11:30 a.m. Service of Remembrance
- 12:40 p.m. Member Session
- 1:00 p.m. Adjourn

### Tuesday, May 24

- 8:30 a.m. Service of Passage and Reading of Appointments
- 9:00 a.m. Legislation & Reports: Arrearage Policy for Clergy Salaries p. 34, Standards for Parsonages p. 35,  
Equitable Compensation p. 40, Amendment to Rule 64 (GC/JC Delegates) p. 42
- 10:00 a.m. Learning Moment
- 10:20 a.m. Legislation & Reports: Amendment to Rule 19b p. 43, Support Protocol of Reconciliation and  
Grace Through Separation p. 44, Integrity of the Conference Journal p. 45
- 11:00 a.m. Ordering of Ministry Service – Ordination and Commissioning
- 1:30 p.m. Legislation as Needed



# BREAKTHROUGH

*A GNJ guide to best practices for worship*

Breakthrough Worship Series is the support system for both clergy and laity to develop engaging worship and move their congregations to grow deeper in faith.

## **EACH SERIES INCLUDES:**

Worship Resources, Preaching Resources, Small Group Resources, Creative Graphics, Song & Hymn Suggestions, Videos and much more!

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Donate before Mother's Day (May 8th) and we'll send a letter  
in recognition of your donation to you for your loved one.



## GNJ Awards

**The Harry Denman Evangelism Award** Sponsored by The Foundation for Evangelism to recognize a clergy member, lay person or a youth who has an outstanding personal evangelism ministry.



### **Michele Neiberlien, St. Andrew's UMC**

Michele Neiberlien is a lifelong member, and a "saint" of St. Andrew's UMC in Spring Lake. She was baptized, nurtured in Sunday School, confirmed as a youth, and when old enough, volunteered in the church's nursery, and taught Sunday School. She managed the school for 10 years. Michele was always an active church goer, but after participating in the Skyland's Walk to Emmaus retreat, her heart was transformed, and she rededicated her life to serving Christ.

She quickly stepped into prominent leadership roles as UMW president (faithfully led by Betty Rushton for some 30+ years), and then trained as a Lay Servant Minister. Michele quickly brought vitality and enthusiasm to the UMW, the mission arm and backbone of St. Andrew's outreach ministry. When COVID-19 took hold of the world, it did not thwart Michele's discipleship! She quickly organized a canned food collection to support her local food pantry with innovative methods- using plastic bins for quick and easy drop-off around the church's semi-circle; this yielded many boxes filled with food to deliver! Throughout the pandemic she found a way for the annual rummage sale to still take place safely, coordinating this bi-annual fund raiser from start to finish. The sale serves those who are less fortunate by providing a very affordable means of getting gently used items, while raising small funding for the UMW as well. After the rummage sale, Michele coordinated the remaining clothing items to be bagged and donated to the Jersey Shore Rescue Mission.

Pre-pandemic, she coordinated a winter coat collection for this same Rescue Mission bringing a sizable rack full of coats to their doorstep! Michele's latest innovation was to provide plastic containers for members to freeze home-made soups, labeled and transferred to the church's freezer to be given out to those recovering after hospitalization, shut-ins, and anyone who may have needs, further empowering the church's Member Care Ministry.

God's loving Spirit is clear in her enthusiasm and vitality; all can see that something wonderful is going on with Michele, and should anyone stop to ask her what, she would not be shy to give credit to God in Christ Jesus! Michele always goes the extra mile for others. There are so many un-named people with various needs that have been blessed because of Michele's leadership. Michele is truly a gifted and spiritually in-tune, well deserving of the Denman recognition.

Michele's dedication and service to the ministry of Jesus Christ at St. Andrew's makes a big difference in the lives of her community. She is a role model in how to serve Jesus. The time she gives to the church and her ability to step up and lead when needed is truly exemplary.



# Wespath

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### Health

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### Well-Being

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### Investments

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We invest in a sustainable manner that we believe supports positive financial, environmental and social impacts.



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We educate clergy about their benefits and finances through educational events tailored by age, location and need, including:

- Clergy Benefits Academy
- revitup! for a Lifetime in Ministry
- Delivered to You—a virtual event



### Central Conference Pensions

We support access to retirement plans for the Central Conferences. We continue to educate conference leaders so they will ultimately become self-funded, self-governed and have pension programs that are self-sustaining.

37 HEALTHFLEX PLAN SPONSORS	100,000 PARTICIPANTS	\$28 Billion IN ASSETS UNDER MANAGEMENT*	250 EMPLOYEES	Largest REPORTING FAITH-BASED PENSION FUND
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\*As of 12/31/2020

# Implicit Bias Committee Review Report for GNJ 2022 Annual Conference Session

An Implicit Bias Review of all legislation and reports to the Greater New Jersey Annual Conference was included with the Journey of Hope legislation in 2020 and legislation from COSROW in May 2021. This review, to be led by the Commission on Religion and Race (CoRR) and the Committee on the Status and Role of Women (COSROW), began its collaboration with GNJ Conference Secretary, Rev. Shelley Smith, and the GNJ Communications Coordinator in December 2021. Led by Rev. Miso Park, chair of CoRR, an Implicit Bias Review Team, including members from CoRR, COSROW, the Committee on Local Ethnic Church Concerns, and the Board of Church and Society, recommended a timeline for the submission of legislation and reports. Rev. Smith determined the deadline to recommend submitting reports and legislation would be January 31, 2022.

This year there were two rounds of Implicit Bias Review for legislation and reports to accommodate the large number of reports, as well as several complex pieces of legislation which needed approval by several agencies (for example, the 2023 budget). All legislation and reports were reviewed by the Implicit Bias Review Team, with feedback provided to the authors. Final copies with revisions were sent to Rev. Smith for inclusion in the PreConference Workbook.

*Implicit bias* is defined by Merriam Webster as “a bias or prejudice that is present but not consciously held or recognized.” Everyone has preferences and prejudices of which they are not aware. The purpose of an implicit bias review is for a diverse group of leaders to identify and remove these biases so that systems of privilege and inequity are not reinforced in the work of GNJ. This is part of Journey of Hope’s work to end the sin of racism.

During this year’s review period, there were several recurring indicators of bias:

1. The use of language for God and people. When referring to God, authors were asked to use inclusive language so that we do not limit God to male pronouns or reinforce patriarchal language. When referring to people, authors were asked to change pejorative language such as “those people” (substituted as “individuals”) or “foreign language churches” (substituted as “to reflect the diversity present in GNJ”).
2. The use of general information rather than specific details. In some cases, the Implicit Bias Review asked questions for additional information from authors. In other cases, exact numbers were requested rather than round numbers. Finally, on reports regarding progress on strategic goals, such as Journey of Hope, specific details about how goals are being worked toward were requested rather than simply giving the current metric.
3. Diversity in leadership. The Implicit Bias Review worked very closely with the Nominations Committee to give feedback and ensure that GNJ has a diverse and inclusive representation throughout its boards and agencies.

All of the legislation and reports included in the PreConference Workbook were reviewed for bias. The following reports and legislation did not make changes that were recommended by the Implicit Bias Review: “Address Rule 64 To Address Inclusivity in A Workable Way” submitted by Creed Pogue.

After the review, the review team has identified several next steps and recommendations:

1. A group will develop a template and recommendations for reports to be submitted to the Annual Conference so that there is consistency and bias is removed.

2. The Implicit Bias Review team will continue to work with the conference secretary and communications team to provide a PreConference Workbook that reflects our commitment expressed in the Journey of Hope legislation.

We are proud of GNJ's commitment to work toward ending the sin of racism, including a thorough Implicit Bias Review. Thank you to the review team, authors of legislation and reports, and all GNJ for your good work on this.

Submitted by Miso Park, Chairperson, Commission on Religion and Race (CoRR), Marissa van der Valk, Chairperson, Committee on the Status and Role of Women (COSROW)



# A FUTURE WITH HOPE

UNITED METHODISTS  
OF GREATER NEW JERSEY

A FUTURE WITH HOPE'S IDA RELIEF FUND WAS CREATED  
TO GIVE CHURCHES THE ASSURANCE THAT SUPPORT WILL  
BE THERE FOR THE DURATION.



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1	<b>Legislation</b>	53	<b><u>Commission on Religion and Race ¶643</u></b>
2		54	<b>Class of 2023</b>
3	<b>Committee on Nominations</b>	55	Manuel Cruz (C)
4	(Those to be elected since last session of Annual	56	
5	Conference)	57	<b>Class of 2024</b>
6		58	Selina Springer (L)
7	<b><u>Nominations to Individual Leadership and Board,</u></b>	59	
8	<b><u>Agencies, and Committee Membership</u></b>	60	<b>Class of 2025</b>
9		61	Dawrell Rich (C)
10	<b><u>Conference Disaster Response Coordinator</u></b>	62	
11	Cricket Denton (C)	63	<b>Class of 2026</b>
12		64	Rob Lynn (L)
13	<b><u>Council on Young Adult Ministries ¶650</u></b>	65	Younghak Lee (C)
14	<b>Class of 2024</b>	66	
15	Jesse Ruch (C)	67	<b><u>Committee on Disability Concerns ¶653</u></b>
16		68	<b>Class of 2023</b>
17	<b>Class of 2026</b>	69	Don Tomalino (L)
18	DeAnna Brathwaite Mays (L), Chair	70	
19	Zachary Holder (L)	71	<b>Class of 2024</b>
20		72	
21	<b><u>Board of Global Ministries ¶633</u></b>	73	
22	<b>Class of 2026</b>	74	<b>Class of 2025</b>
23	Moses Flomo (C)	75	ChangYong Shin (C)
24		76	
25	<b><u>Board of Discipleship ¶630</u></b>	77	<b>Class of 2026</b>
26	<b>Class of 2024</b>	78	
27	Josiah Chung (C)	79	
28		80	<b><u>Committee on Parish and Community Development</u></b>
29	<b>Class of 2026</b>	81	<b><u>¶633.5</u></b>
30	Anna Thomas (C), Chair	82	Corinne Arthur (C)
31		83	
32	<b><u>Committee on Ethnic Local Church Concerns ¶632</u></b>	84	<b><u>Commission on Equitable Compensation ¶625.1</u></b>
33	<b>Class of 2024</b>	85	<b>Class of 2024</b>
34	Samuel Albania (L)	86	Staci Scheetz (L)
35		87	
36	<b>Class of 2026</b>	88	<b>Class of 2026</b>
37	Roeline Ramirez (L)	89	Frank Davis (C)
38	Latasha Milton (C)	90	
39		91	<b><u>Committee on Native American Ministries ¶654</u></b>
40	<b><u>Commission on Archives and History ¶ 641</u></b>	92	<b>Class of 2023</b>
41	<b>Class of 2024</b>	93	Ron Crouch (C)
42	Frank Friend (L)	94	
43	Rupert Hall (C)	95	<b>Class of 2025</b>
44		96	
45	<b><u>Commission on Christian Unity and Inter-religious</u></b>	97	
46	<b><u>Concerns ¶642</u></b>	98	<b>Class of 2026</b>
47	<b>Class of 2024</b>	99	Gail Gould (L), Chair
48	Javier Barroso-Rodriguez (C), Chair	100	Ray Schmeling (C)
49		101	Ex officio UMW Rep: Leslie Bivins
50	<b>Class of 2026</b>	102	
51	Gerard Mayers (L)	103	<b><u>Committee on Rules of Order</u></b>
52		104	<b>Class of 2026</b>
		105	Laura Steele (C)

1 **BOARD, AGENCIES AND COMMISSIONS**  
2 **ORGANIZED BY THE BOOK OF DISCIPLINE**

- 3  
4 **Board of Ordained Ministry ¶635**  
5 **Class of 2024**  
6 Kay Dubuisson (C)  
7 James Lee (C)  
8 Hosuk Chung (C)  
9 JiSun Yang (C)  
10 Veronica Palmer (C)  
11 Joe Tiedemann (C)  
12 Josh Mularski (C)  
13 Derrick Doherty (C)  
14  
15 **Board of Pension ¶639**  
16 **Class of 2030**  
17 Garry Smith (L)  
18  
19 **Council on Finance and Administration ¶611-618**  
20 **Class of 2026**  
21 Rosario Quinones (C)  
22  
23 **Board of Trustees ¶640 and 2512**  
24 **Class of 2023**  
25 Vivian Rodeffer (C)  
26  
27 **Class of 2024**  
28 Aaron Amankwah (L)  
29 Joe Monahan (C)  
30  
31 **Class of 2026**  
32 Cynthia Mosley (L)  
33 Rupert Hall (C)  
34  
35 **Committee on Episcopacy ¶637**  
36 **Class of 2024**  
37 Carolyn Pendleton (L)  
38  
39 **Committee on Investigation of a Clergy Member**  
40 **¶2703.2, 2008 BOD**

41  
42 **OTHER CONFERENCE AND AFFILIATED AGENCIES**

- 43  
44 **Camping and Retreats Board**  
45 **Class of 2026**  
46 Gabrielle Corbett (C)  
47  
48 **Next Generation Ministries, Inc.**  
49 **Class of 2025**  
50 DeAnna Brathwaite Mays (L)  
51  
52

53 **OTHER BOARDS THAT SUBMIT NOMINATIONS TO THE**  
54 **ANNUAL CONFERENCE**

- 55  
56 **The Pennington School – Board of Trustees**  
57 Secretary: Jason Ridings  
58 Alumni Association President: Jacob Levy  
59  
60 **Class of 2023**  
61 Matthew Pauls  
62 Stephen Tan  
63 Peter Tucci  
64 Erich Stegich  
65 Jack Green  
66 Jian “Jim” Wang  
67  
68 **Class of 2024**  
69 Lou Denton  
70 Michael Jingoli  
71 Dan Mahony  
72 Brenda Martini O’Loughlin  
73 Julie Wulf  
74 Celeste Jackson  
75 Katherine Rosa  
76 Jason Ridings  
77  
78 **Class of 2025**  
79 David Long  
80 William Oldsey  
81 Judith Rosenberg  
82 Steve Silberman  
83 Soopakij “Chris” Chearavanont  
84  
85 **Class of 2026**  
86 Jordan Gray  
87 Dennis Keating  
88 John Biddiscombe  
89 Lisa Espinoza  
90 Jae Hyeok Heo  
91 Min Soo Kim  
92 Swati Navani  
93

94 **United Methodist Communities – Board of Directors**

- 95 **Class of 2026**  
96 Gavin Stobie (2)  
97 Brian Roberts (1)  
98

99 **DISTRICT COMMITTEES**

- 100  
101 **METRO HIGHLANDS REGION**  
102  
103 **Meadowlands – Rev. William Williams, III**  
104 District Lay Leader: David Yamoah

- 1 **Board of Church and Location ¶2519**  
2 **Class 2022**  
3 Greg Harewood (L)  
4 Esther Morales (C)  
5 Scott Griffith (C)  
6  
7 **Class of 2023**  
8 David Yamoah (L)  
9 Wayne Jones (C)  
10 Eileen Hirsch (L)  
11  
12 **Class 2024**  
13 Prescott Butler (C)  
14 Mike Ernst (L)  
15 Judy Karius (L)  
16  
17 **Committee on District Superintendency ¶669**  
18 **Clergy**  
19 Hyoik Kim  
20 Veronica Palmer  
21 Vivian Rodeffer  
22 Sharon Yarger  
23  
24 **Laity**  
25 David Yamoah  
26 Peter Dewes  
27 Penni Robinson  
28 Krystal Woolston  
29 Elsie Sternbach  
30 Rosa Williams  
31 Dan Park  
32  
33 **District Committee on Ordained Ministry ¶666**  
34 **Clergy**  
35 Kil Jae Park  
36 Gabrielle Corbett  
37 James Ryoo  
38 Gary Frieze  
39 David Le Duc  
40 Amanda Hemenetz  
41 Veronica Palmer  
42 Janice Sutton Lynn  
43 Esther Morales  
44 Christina LeLache  
45  
46 **Laity**  
47 Ebo Nkrumah  
48 Sandra Cook-McKnight  
49 Joanna Pearrich  
50  
51 **District Poverty Task Force**  
52 **Clergy**  
53 Manuel Cruz
- 54 Kay Dubuisson  
55 Victor Peterson  
56  
57 **Laity**  
58 Daniel Jimenez  
59 David Yamoah  
60 Diana Yamoah  
61 Rosa Williams  
62  
63 **District Director of Lay Servant Ministries:**  
64 Diana Yamoah & Daniel Jimenez  
65  
66 **District Disaster Response Coordinator:**  
67 Kay Dubuisson  
68  
69 **District Youth Coordinator:**  
70 Brenda Wheeler Ehlers  
71  
72 **Skylands – Rev. Eunice Vega-Perez**  
73 District Lay Leader: Barbara Miller  
74  
75 **Board of Church and Location ¶2519**  
76 **Class 2022**  
77 Carla Constantino (C)  
78 Ed Gilsky (L)  
79 Tracey Gleason (L)  
80  
81 **Class 2023**  
82 Ellen Bechtold (C)  
83 Jeanette Zayac (L)  
84 Joyce Mcknight-Young (L)  
85  
86 **Class 2024**  
87 David Tillish (C)  
88 JogIn Lee (C)  
89 Bob Keller (L)  
90  
91 **Committee on District Superintendency ¶669**  
92 **Clergy**  
93 Todd Lattig  
94 Dennis Chung  
95 Marissa Van der Valk  
96 Ninabeth Medcalf  
97  
98 **Laity**  
99 Seon Ah Anh  
100 Kim Burse  
101 Manuel Vargas  
102 Mary Bland  
103 Barbara Miller  
104 Sung Kwon Kim  
105 Charles Nielsen  
106

1 **District Committee on Ordained Ministry ¶1666**  
2 **Clergy**  
3 Deb DeVos  
4 Even Rohrs-Dodge  
5 Miso Park  
6 Nancy Robinson  
7 Sung Hoon Ahn  
8 Ninabeth Metcalf  
9 Tim Nicinski  
10  
11 **Laity**  
12 Ignace Conic  
13 Seon Ah Ahn  
14 Lee Haase  
15 Barbara Miller  
16  
17 **District Poverty Task Force**  
18 **Clergy**  
19 Manuel Islas  
20 Betty Horne  
21 Tricia Piazza  
22  
23 **District Director of Lay Servant Ministries:**  
24 Cara Quick  
25  
26 **District Disaster Response Coordinator:**  
27 Scott Matt/ Jack Inglis  
28  
29 **District Youth Coordinator:**  
30 Miso Park/ Korean  
31  
32 **Raritan Shore – Rev. Sang Won Doh**  
33 District Lay Leader: Douglas Fontenello  
34  
35 **Board of Church and Location ¶2519**  
36 **Class 2022**  
37 Kevin Davis (C)  
38 Kevin Helsby (L)  
39 Dean Peterson ((L)  
40  
41 **Class 2023**  
42 Douglas Fontenello (L)  
43 Tracy Estes, Chair (L)  
44 Derrick Doherty (C)  
45 **Class 2024**  
46 Sang Hoon Choi (C)  
47 Steven Yeske (L)  
48 Kirk Huber (L)  
49  
50 **Committee on District Superintendency ¶669**  
51 **Clergy**  
52 Jennifer Cho  
53 Victor Franco

54 Chuck Coblentz  
55 Isabel Quezada  
56  
57 **Laity**  
58 Tracy Allen  
59 Peter Espeut  
60 Douglas Fontenello  
61 Jim Silkensen  
62 Ken Helsby  
63  
64 **District Committee on Ordained Ministry ¶1666**  
65 **Clergy**  
66 Alison Van Buskirk Philip (Chair)  
67 Cameron Overbey  
68 Benjamin Lee  
69 Kevin Davis  
70 Jill Hubbard Smith  
71 Hyun Hui Kim (Registrar)  
72 Gina Yeske  
73  
74 **Laity**  
75 Beth Crawford  
76 Linda DeLukey  
77  
78 **District Poverty Task Force**  
79 **Clergy**  
80 David Edwards  
81 Wil Wilson Jr. (Chair)  
82 Marco Depestre  
83 Vijay Kumar  
84 Federico Quezada  
85  
86 **Laity**  
87 Cynthia Barlett  
88 Helen Hunter  
89 Dorian Gagliadi  
90 Joy Kalfus  
91 Brian Richard  
92 Avery Grant  
93  
94 **District Director of Lay Servant Ministries:**  
95 Donald Schultz  
96  
97 **District Disaster Response Coordinator:**  
98 Kevin Davis  
99  
100 **District Youth Coordinator:**  
101  
102 **COASTAL PLAINS REGION**  
103  
104 **CENTRAL** - Héctor A Burgos  
105 **District Lay Leader:** Judy Di Cecco  
106

1	<b><u>Board of Church and Location ¶2519</u></b>	54	<b><u>District Director of Lay Servant Ministries:</u></b>
2	<b>Class 2022</b>	55	Laura Jaskot
3	John Taylor III, Chair (L)	56	
4	Jim Conway (L)	57	<b><u>District Disaster Response Coordinator:</u></b>
5	Rupert Hall (C)	58	TBD
6		59	
7	<b>Class 2023</b>	60	<b><u>District Youth Coordinator:</u></b>
8	Charles Soper (C)	61	
9	Keith Sheppard (L)	62	<b><u>Delaware Bay - Glenn Conaway</u></b>
10	Jesse Ruch (C)	63	District Lay Leader: Terri Ganderton
11		64	
12	<b>Class 2024</b>	65	<b><u>Board of Church and Location ¶2519</u></b>
13	Michael Wright (L)	66	<b>Class 2022</b>
14	Dennis Poane (L)	67	Neil Neal (L)
15		68	Paul Graham (L)
16	<b><u>Committee on District Superintendency ¶669</u></b>	69	Walt Mander (C)
17	<b><u>Clergy</u></b>	70	
18	Brian Joyce – Chair	71	<b>Class 2023</b>
19	Erik Matson	72	Walt Kellen (C)
20	Jessica Stenstrom	73	Joann Goldsborough (L)
21	Wade Jackson	74	Ron Sandmeyer (L)
22		75	
23	<b><u>Laity</u></b>	76	<b>Class 2024</b>
24	Judy Di Cecco	77	Jay Brown (L)
25	Patricia Love	78	Mike Bill (C)
26		79	Jim Neiland (L)
27	<b><u>District Committee on Ordained Ministry ¶666</u></b>	80	
28	<b><u>Clergy</u></b>	81	<b><u>Committee on District Superintendency ¶669</u></b>
29	Jenn Smith-Walz, chair	82	<b><u>Clergy</u></b>
30	Karen Murray, Co-Registrar	83	Steve Herman
31	Samuel Park (BOOM)	84	Tiffany Murphy
32	Brian Joyce	85	David Strobe
33	Richard Romero	86	Shelley Smith
34	Evan Dodge, Co-Registrar	87	Steve Elliott
35	Sunny Shim	88	Sandra Callahan
36	Jonathan Campbell	89	
37	Jessica Stenstrom	90	<b><u>Laity</u></b>
38	Anna Gillette	91	Terri Ganderton
39		92	Cynthia Mosley
40	<b><u>Laity</u></b>	93	Elwood Breon
41	Julie Dixon-Thomas	94	Dawn Flitcraft
42	Jeneene Reduker	95	
43	Emmet Bivins	96	<b><u>District Committee on Ordained Ministry ¶666</u></b>
44	Fred Muller	97	<b><u>Clergy</u></b>
45		98	Jim Bolton
46	<b><u>District Poverty Task Force</u></b>	99	Carol Davies
47	<b><u>Clergy</u></b>	100	Javier Barroso
48	Waleska Trinidad	101	Doug Goldsborough
49	Ruppert Hall	102	Chuck Mitchell
50		103	John Inverso
51	<b><u>Laity</u></b>	104	Walt Kellen
52	Judy Di Cecco	105	Tom Lank
53		106	

1 **Laity**  
2 Belinda Hall  
3 Janet Holdcraft  
4 Sally Durham  
5 Ralph Skeels  
6  
7 **District Poverty Task Force**  
8 **Clergy**  
9 Jack Fosbenner  
10 Ricardo Ramos  
11  
12 **Laity**  
13 Cynthia Mosley  
14  
15 **District Director of Lay Servant Ministries:**  
16  
17 **District Disaster Response Coordinator:**  
18  
19 **District Youth Coordinator:**  
20  
21 **Cape Atlantic – Jana Purkis-Brash**  
22 District Lay Leader: Carolyn Pendleton  
23  
24 **Board of Church and Location ¶2519**  
25 **Class 2022**  
26 Jonathan Johnson, Chair (L)  
27 Chris Antolini (L)  
28  
29 **Class 2023**  
30 Mark Gibson (L)  
31 Lyssette Perez (C)  
32  
33 **Class 2024**  
34 Tom Novak (C)  
35 Allen Maddox (L)  
36 Nicole Troast (C)  
37  
38 **Committee on District Superintendency ¶669**  
39 **Clergy**  
40 Linda Ross  
41 Ginnie Keiser (RL)  
42 Hey Young Nam Horton  
43 Doug Spencer  
44

45 **Laity**  
46 Carolyn Pendleton  
47 Meredith Neeley  
48 James Baker  
49 Debbie Tai  
50 Normary Rodriguez  
51 Carl Henry  
52  
53 **District Committee on Ordained Ministry ¶666**  
54 **Clergy**  
55 Dr. David Montanye chair  
56 Dr. Robert Williams  
57 David Ledford III  
58 Glenn Scheyhing D  
59 Dr. Linda Ross  
60 Erik Hall  
61  
62 **Laity**  
63 Carolyn Pendleton  
64 Michelle Lee  
65 Alma Matos  
66  
67 **District Poverty Task Force**  
68 **Laity**  
69 David Dorfman  
70 Carolyn Taylor  
71 Van Taylor  
72 Amy Charleston  
73 Emily Bruley  
74 Joe Neidinger  
75  
76 **District Director of Lay Servant Ministries:**  
77 Janice Betts  
78  
79 **District Disaster Response Coordinator:**  
80  
81 **District Youth Coordinator:**  
82  
83 **Mission Central Coordinator:**  
84 Rev. Nicole Troast  
85  
86

1 **Conference Advanced Specials**

2  
3 **Be It Resolved** that the 2022 Session of the Greater New Jersey Conference designates the following  
4 ministries and institutions as Conference Advance Specials for the 2023 conference year (without restricting  
5 in anyway a local church’s ability to support other mission work):  
6

7 **Be It Further Resolved** that the Executive Committee of the Connectional Table be authorized to make any  
8 additions and deletions to the Conference Advance Specials list based upon recommendations of the  
9 Conference Board of Global Ministries.  
10

11 **C.A.M.P. YDP** (Community Association with a Ministry to People Youth Development Program) Provides pre-  
12 school, after-school and summer programs for children aged 5 - 14 and their families, mainly on the north  
13 side of Paterson. The program runs throughout the year. As an organization, we are committed to work as a  
14 "partner" within the community. A stimulating and nurturing environment is provided. Total care is available  
15 as well when schools are not in session with transportation available to pick up children from certain schools.  
16

17 **Centenary Fund/Preachers Aid Fund** Supporting retired clergy and spouses.  
18

19 **Christian Outreach Project** provides no-cost home repairs to persons in need in the northwest area of our  
20 Conference. Participants are made up of high school youth and adult volunteers. In addition to home repairs,  
21 participants engage in morning devotionals, singing, worship services and recreational activities.  
22

23 **CUMAC/ECHO** works to alleviate hunger and its root causes for those in need in Paterson, Passaic County  
24 and northern NJ. CUMAC has a Pantry feeding 3,000+ monthly. Our Depot warehouses over 2 million pounds  
25 of food annually for a network of about 40 partner feeding programs. This Community Food Coalition (CFC)  
26 distributes food while also screening clients for member pantries. We advocate at the local and state level on  
27 behalf of CFC clients. CUMAC also has a Community Closet that offers clothing & household items; Pathways  
28 to Work imparts job skills and hands-on experience; Place of Promise is a supportive housing program for  
29 chronically homeless individuals; and our seasonal projects for school supplies, holiday gifts and other items  
30 for area children in need. All our programs rely heavily on volunteer and financial support from the  
31 community.  
32

33 **C.U.M.I. Camden Urban Ministry Initiative**, a cooperative After-School Program is a shared ministry amongst  
34 Camden churches. This partnering reaches families to ensure positive development of children. We provide a  
35 safe environment for youth activities, such as an after-school program, summer day camps, youth Bible  
36 study, choir and a career training program. There are arts and cultural activities for all ages. The exchange of  
37 stories, wisdom, advice, and experience builds a shared understanding of family and community. This  
38 church-based intergenerational community surrounds our youth with caring Christian adults who encourage,  
39 support, and pray for our youth while also holding them accountable. We are dedicated to the spiritual,  
40 emotional, and social growth of Camden Youth.  
41

42 **First Friends of New Jersey and New York** With the expansion of detention centers in New Jersey, the need  
43 to provide advocacy, research and social services to detained and released detainees has increasingly grown.  
44 We provide a link to the outside world by providing toll free lines (English & Spanish) in five different  
45 detention facilities where more than 2000 individuals are detained, and through visiting individuals in  
46 detention. Our Pen-pal Program allows volunteers who cannot visit to write to detainees.  
47

1 **Justice for Our Neighbors (JFON)** is a ministry that works with people God calls us to work with: the  
2 immigrant or what the Bible referred to as the stranger in both the Old Testament and Gospels. New Jersey  
3 is a state of immigrants. Unique to this ministry is that three conferences, Peninsula Delaware, Eastern  
4 Pennsylvania, and Greater New Jersey, will pool resources to serve together to support immigrants in the  
5 Southern New Jersey, Philadelphia and Delaware Region. It will provide volunteer compassion ministry and  
6 professional legal services. Greater New Jersey has long provided such services to clergy and laity,  
7 particularly in Northern New Jersey. This ministry will provide services in Southern New Jersey, particularly  
8 to persons with the lowest incomes.

9  
10 **The Neighborhood Center** has served the Camden community since 1913. Today, they are a community  
11 center that provides a healthy and nutritious lunch six days a week, day care, an after-school program, and  
12 an evening teen program. We focus on a two-generation approach to lift families out of poverty. Our  
13 commitment is to provide a safe space for Academic achievement, Athletic accomplishment, and a  
14 flourishing Arts program. Our hope and vision for the next century of service is to create a "community living  
15 room."

16  
17 **Pennington School** A college preparatory institution affiliated with the Methodist Church, reflecting the  
18 principles espoused by John Wesley and core values of Honor, Virtue, and Humility. Students experience an  
19 environment where talents and values are forged for making a positive difference in the world. We provide  
20 half scholarships for diversity of students in grade 6 to 12.

21  
22 **Ranch Hope/Victory House** Ranch Hope provides ministry to troubled boys ages 9 to 16 ½ and Victory House  
23 provides services to troubled girls between the ages of 14–18 years. We are faith-based and provide learning  
24 environments for youths and teenagers whose need can best be met through experiences outside their  
25 homes. They can obtain or regain their long-term academic, behavioral, and spiritual focus in our residential  
26 setting. Counseling, housing and recreation is offered, as well as spiritual guidance, time to attend chapel  
27 services and Bible study. We are licensed by the New Jersey State Department of Children and Families.

28  
29 **The Maker's Place** is an initiative of the United Methodist Church of Greater New Jersey. The goal is to  
30 connect neighbors in Trenton with neighbors in central New Jersey and beyond, by opening a neighborhood  
31 resource center that empowers underrepresented populations in our capital city. The Maker's Place is a site  
32 for local mission and ministry. Starting with initiatives centered around food and families, The Maker's Place  
33 will cultivate transformative relationships that help people build bridges out of poverty and create a  
34 multiethnic and economically diverse community hub where all people can experience the wide welcome of  
35 God.

36  
37 Submitted by Isabel R. Quezada

### 38 39 **Trustees Enabling Resolutions**

40  
41 **Be it resolved** that the Greater New Jersey Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church hereby  
42 ratifies, approves, and confirms actions taken by the Conference Board of Trustees since the last Annual  
43 Session.

44  
45 **Be it further resolved** that if subsequent to this Annual Session of the Greater New Jersey Annual  
46 Conference of The United Methodist Church and prior to the 2023 Annual Session, any property, real  
47 or personal, that is conveyed or transferred to the Annual Conference by any church or other person,  
48 firm, partnership, or corporation, the Board of Trustees is hereby authorized and empowered, in its

1 discretion, provided that the same be approved by the Bishop and Cabinet, to refuse to accept, or accept  
2 and then sell, transfer, lease or convey any such real or personal property for such price and at such time or  
3 times and upon such other terms and conditions as the Board of Trustees of the Greater New Jersey Annual  
4 Conference of The United Methodist Church shall determine; and  
5

6 **Be it further resolved** that the proper officers of the Board of Trustees of the Greater New Jersey Annual  
7 Conference of The United Methodist Church be and hereby are authorized in the name and on behalf of the  
8 Conference, to execute and deliver the Conference deed of conveyance or instrument of transfer and all  
9 other instruments and documents to implement and carry out the purpose and intent of the herein  
10 resolution and to affix the corporate seal of the Conference thereto; and  
11

12 **Be it further resolved** that the President or Vice-President or Treasurer of the Corporation is hereby fully  
13 authorized and empowered to transfer, convey, endorse, sell, assign, and deliver, any and all stock, bonds,  
14 evidence of interest and/or indebtedness and all other securities, corporate or otherwise, now, or hereafter  
15 standing in the name or owned by this Corporation and to make, execute and deliver, any property to  
16 effectuate the authority hereby conferred; and  
17

18 **Be it further resolved** that whenever there shall be annexed to any instrument of assignment and transfer,  
19 executed pursuant to and in accordance with the foregoing resolution, a certificate of Secretary or of an  
20 Assistant Secretary of this Corporation in the office at the date of such certificate shall set forth these  
21 resolutions and shall state that these resolutions are in full force and effect, then all persons to whom such  
22 instrument with the annexed certificate shall thereafter come, shall be entitled without further inquiry or  
23 investigation and regardless of the date of such certificate, to assume and to act in reliance upon the  
24 assumptions that the shares of stock or other securities named in such instrument were therefore duly and  
25 properly transferred, endorsed, sold, assigned, set over and delivered by this Corporation, and that with  
26 respect to such securities the authority of these resolutions and of such officers is still in full force and effect;  
27 and  
28

29 **Be it further resolved** that after this Annual Session of the Greater New Jersey Annual Conference of  
30 The United Methodist Church and prior to the 2023 Annual Session, the Board of Trustees of the Greater  
31 New Jersey Annual Conference is hereby authorized to acquire or dispose of all staff housing including but  
32 not limited to District parsonages, Director of Connectional Ministries, Camping Staff, Episcopal Residence  
33 and Treasurer's residences, as in its discretion, it may deem necessary and advisable and in accordance with  
34 The Book of Discipline of the United Methodist Church. The Conference Board of Trustees is hereby  
35 authorized and empowered to enter into such contracts of sale and such other documents as may be  
36 necessary to effectuate the sale, transfer, or purchase of such properties. Such properties, real or personal,  
37 may be sold or acquired from any person or persons, firm, partnership, or corporation upon such terms and  
38 conditions as the Board of Trustees of the Greater New Jersey Annual Conference of The United Methodist  
39 Church shall determine; and  
40

41 **Be it further resolved** that the proper officers of the Board of Trustees of the Greater New Jersey Annual  
42 Conference of The United Methodist Church are hereby empowered and authorized to execute all such  
43 deeds, mortgages, notes, bonds, and other documents necessary to implement the purchase or sale of such  
44 conference-owned properties; and  
45  
46

1 **Be it further resolved** that the Board of Trustees of the Greater New Jersey Annual Conference of The United  
2 Methodist Church, be and are hereby authorized to act on behalf of the Annual Conference in any and all  
3 lawsuits or legal actions in which the Annual Conference is named.

4 Submitted by Mathew J. Enzler  
5

## 6 **Church Closures**

7

8 Be it resolved that the Greater New Jersey Annual Conference expresses its thanksgiving for all the blessings  
9 made possible by the clergy and laity who have contributed to the ministry and mission of the following  
10 congregations:

11  
12 Embury United Methodist Church, Collingswood, NJ  
13

14 Be it further resolved, in keeping with the provisions of Paragraph 2549.2b of the Book of Discipline, 2016  
15 edition, the congregations are discontinued, and the assets of the church are transferred to the Trustees of  
16 the Greater New Jersey Annual Conference.

17  
18 Be it further resolved, that in keeping with the provisions of Paragraph 229 of the Book of the Discipline,  
19 2017 edition, the remaining members of the church may be transferred to a United Methodist Church of  
20 their choice.

21  
22 Be it further resolved, that through its budget fund distribution percentages for the sale of property, Greater  
23 New Jersey Annual Conference distribute net proceeds after all outstanding loans and other obligations  
24 owed to the Greater New Jersey Annual Conference or any other creditor shall be repaid upon the sale of the  
25 property, and liquidation of any other assets.

26  
27 Be it further resolved, in keeping with provisions of Paragraph 2549.4 of the Book of Discipline, 2016 edition,  
28 all deeds, records, legal papers and other official documents shall be maintained in permanent safekeeping  
29 with the Conference Commission on Archives and History.

30  
31 Be it further resolved that the remaining funds from the sale of the church after all debt and obligations have  
32 been paid will be disbursed according to the legislation as approved by the January 22, 2021.

33  
34 Submitted by the Greater New Jersey Cabinet  
35

## 36 **Pension and Health Benefits**

37

38 **Be it resolved** that the Past Service Annuity Rate for January 1, 2023, to December 31, 2023, be set at \$742  
39 per approved service year prior to January 1, 1982.

### 40 41 **Be it further resolved**

- 42 1. That effective January 1, 2023, the Greater New Jersey Annual Conference will continue to sponsor  
43 CRSP for full-time, three-quarter time and one-half time clergy and continue to sponsor UMPIP for  
44 those clergy in one-quarter time appointments.
- 45 2. That contributions for January 1, 2023, to December 31, 2023, for the Clergy Retirement Security  
46 Program for full-time and less-than-full-time (¾-time & ½-time) clergy and for Conference sponsored  
47 UMPIP Plan for ¼-time clergy, be set at 14% of plan compensation. The increased percentage

1 includes 5% for administrative costs and 7% uncollectable fees per the 2020 approved budget set by  
2 Special Session of Annual Conference on October 26, 2020.

- 3 3. That contributions for January 1, 2023, to December 31, 2023, for the Comprehensive Protection  
4 Plan be set at 3.4% of plan compensation for full-time and ¾-time ordained clergy, and for  
5 Conference Sponsored UMLife Options for ½-time ordained clergy to be set 2.2% of plan  
6 compensation. That local churches may sponsor ¼-time ordained clergy and ¾-time part-time local  
7 pastors in UMLife Options. The increased percentages for CPP and UMLifeOptions includes 5% for  
8 administrative costs and 7% uncollectable fees per the 2020 approved budget set by Special Session  
9 of Annual Conference on October 26, 2020.
- 10 4. That the starting date for retirement payments for new retirees commences July 1, 2022, unless  
11 otherwise stated.
- 12 5. That the following members of the former Southern Conference be included in terms of eligibility for  
13 conference-paid health benefits. Specifically, the following persons, upon becoming annuitants with  
14 at least 10 years of service, will be eligible for Conference-paid health benefits: Jae Jeong Shim,  
15 Mildred E. Bender, J. Evans Dodds, Nicholas Connolly, Daniel Gueh, William R. Hess, and Charles D.  
16 Mitchell.
- 17 6. That Robert L. Webster and family be eligible for Conference-paid health benefits upon retirement  
18 and receiving an annuity.
- 19 7. That Rev. Patricia Bruger’s actual years of appointment and service at CUMAC/ECHO, INC. from June  
20 16, 1995, through retirement be fully credited for the purpose of calculation of service year credits  
21 to determine allocation of pro-rated health insurance premium payment responsibility upon  
22 retirement.
- 23 8. That the following clergy be subject to five years “under appointment through the Conference  
24 immediately prior to retirement” to meet eligibility requirements for health benefits in retirement,  
25 rather than the seven years as approved at the 2011 Annual Conference meeting (Paragraph 3 under  
26 Eligibility, p. 365 of the 2011 Conference Journal). Specifically, the following persons, if, at the time  
27 of retirement, meet all other eligibility requirements for health insurance in retirement, shall be  
28 granted under this provision: Rev. Vena Murphy, Rev. William Jacobsen, Rev. Christina Zito.
- 29 9. That clergy participants in the Conference Health Insurance Plan who have expenses associated with  
30 the adoption of a child will be reimbursed up to \$10,000 per child upon the presentation of the  
31 necessary documentation.
- 32 10. The Greater NJ Annual Conference (the “Conference”) adopts the following resolutions relating to  
33 rental/housing allowances for active, retired, terminated, or disabled clergypersons of the  
34 Conference:

35  
36 **Be it resolved** that an amount equal to 100% of the pension, severance, or disability payments received from  
37 plans authorized under *The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church* (the “*Discipline*”), which  
38 includes all such payments from the Wespath Benefits and Investments, during the period July 1, 2022  
39 through June 30, 2023, by each active, retired, terminated, or disabled clergyperson who is or was a member  
40 of the Conference, or its predecessors, be and hereby is designated as a rental/housing allowance for each  
41 such clergyperson; and

42  
43 That the pension, severance, or disability payments to which this rental/housing allowance designation  
44 applies will be any pension, severance, or disability payments from plans, annuities, or funds authorized  
45 under the *Discipline*, including such payments from Wespath and from a commercial annuity company that

1 provides an annuity arising from benefits accrued under a Wespath plan, annuity, or fund authorized under  
2 the *Discipline*, that result from any service a clergyperson rendered to this Conference or that an active, a  
3 retired, a terminated, or a disabled clergyperson of this Conference rendered to any local church, annual  
4 conference of the Church, general agency of the Church, other institution of the Church, former  
5 denomination that is now a part of the Church, or any other employer that employed the clergyperson to  
6 perform services related to the ministry of the Church, or its predecessors, and that elected to make  
7 contributions to, or accrue a benefit under, such a plan, annuity, or fund for such an active, a retired, a  
8 terminated, or a disabled clergyperson's pension, severance, or disability plan benefit as part of his or her  
9 gross compensation.

10  
11 NOTE: The rental/housing allowance that may be excluded from a clergyperson's gross income in any year  
12 for federal (and, in most cases, state) income tax purposes is limited under Internal Revenue Code section  
13 107(2), and regulations there under, to the least of: (a) the amount of the rental/housing allowance  
14 designated by the clergyperson's employer or other appropriate body of the Church (such as this Conference  
15 in the foregoing resolutions) for such year; (b) the amount actually expended by the clergyperson to rent or  
16 provide a home in such year; or (c) the fair rental value of the home, including furnishings and  
17 appurtenances (such as a garage), plus the cost of utilities in such year. Each clergyperson or former  
18 clergyperson is urged to consult with his or her own tax advisor to determine what deferred compensation is  
19 eligible to be claimed as a housing allowance exclusion.

- 20
- 21 1. That clergy retiring before July 1, 2023, be reimbursed for one-time moving expenses up to  
22 \$5,000.00 incurred while moving from church-owned housing to personal housing. This  
23 reimbursement is limited to actual moving expenses, not to include moving company packing costs.  
24 Clergy are required to make every effort to obtain three bids to the Board of Pension & Health  
25 Benefits prior to final approval. The same benefits and restrictions shall also apply to a surviving  
26 spouse moving out of the parsonage upon the death of a pastor while in active service in the Annual  
27 Conference, and to those entering disabled relationships.
  - 28 2. That the Conference Board of Pension and Health Benefits be authorized to make modifications to  
29 the current Insurance Plan as the health care market demands. In addition, modifications to the Plan  
30 that could reduce premium costs to local churches and Annual Conference are to be studied and  
31 enacted as the Board determines appropriate. These changes might include increased participant  
32 deductibles, co-payments, greater use of generic medications, and other avenues of cost saving and  
33 sharing. Such changes will be subject to prior review of CFA and the Cabinet.
  - 34 3. That the Guidelines for Health Insurance Participation, below, be approved and upon approval  
35 printed in the 2022 Conference Journal and Yearbook.

36  
37 Submitted by Jennifer Cho  
38

## 39 **2023 Budget Recommendation**

40  
41 Whereas in 2021, the world and GNJ continued to go through an unprecedented COVID-19 pandemic that  
42 negatively impacted the ministry of our churches and their spending; and

1 Whereas normally the 2023 Shared Ministry Apportionment for each GNJ congregation is determined by  
2 multiplying the congregation’s spending in 2021 (inputted by each congregation in the GCFA Ezra database)  
3 by a percentage set by the annual conference; and

4 Whereas the 2021-year spending was dramatically impacted by the pandemic and the spending is  
5 significantly different than normal trends; and

6 Whereas the strength of giving expected of a congregation for 2023 is not reflected in the 2021 Statistical  
7 Report numbers;

8 Therefore, be it resolved that the 2023 Shared Ministry Apportionment for each congregation be calculated  
9 using the average of the 2019 and 2021 Statistical Report data; and

10 Be it resolved that the Greater New Jersey Annual Conference adopt the 2023 Budget that includes the  
11 following:

- 12 1. A consolidated budget that includes all billings to congregations, GNJ ministry and mission,  
13 administration and property, and general church apportionments.
- 14 2. 15.3% shared ministry apportionment, 12.3% for GNJ shared ministry and 3.0% for general church  
15 apportionment.
- 16 3. Salary and support for six district superintendents.
- 17 4. \$1.185 million from property sales and \$200,000 from 2021 surplus to support congregations with  
18 their billings.
  - 19 a. Additional property sale proceeds beyond the \$1.185 million budgeted to support  
20 congregations with their billings (“investable proceeds”), will be deposited into the approved  
21 designated funds according to the plan developed by CFA so that all funds except the four  
22 listed below reach their targets by 2026, or sooner; after which, funds will be deposited in  
23 accordance with the annual conference policy to allocate property sale proceeds to the  
24 Harvest Mission Fund (50%), Strategic Disciple Making Fund (20%), Retiree Health Care Fund  
25 (15%) and Property Redevelopment Fund (15%).
  - 26 b. For 2023, the investable proceeds will be deposited as follows: 92% to Retiree Health Care  
27 Fund and 8% as directed by CFA to funds as needed to achieve the goal amount.
- 28 5. \$449,394 from GNJ designated funds.
- 29 6. Qualifying congregations identified according to the Journey of Hope Equity Shared Ministry  
30 legislation will be apportioned as approved by previous annual conference legislation according to  
31 the formula outlined in the A Journey of Hope report and legislation  
32
- 33 7. The monthly statements provided to congregations include the following.
  - 34 a. The total apportionment to the congregation for GNJ shared ministry.
  - 35 b. The total apportionment to the congregation on behalf of the general church.
  - 36 c. Direct billings to the congregation from GNJ, which include but is not limited to, blended rate  
37 for active healthcare and incremental contributions for self-elected benefits (health, dental,  
38 vision, and health reimbursement accounts) for active pastors/lay employees, workers  
39 compensation, property insurance and back payments for past billings  
40

41 Submitted by Vasanth Victor  
42  
43

	<b>2023</b>	<b>Approved 2022</b>
<b>Income</b>		
GNJ Shared Ministry Apportionment	6,852,258	7,129,164
GNJ portion of General Church MEF	67,918	67,171
Local Church Billing Revenue	15,723,542	13,908,578
Centenary Fund	700,000	700,000
Designated Funds	449,394	578,535
Property Sale Revenue	1,185,000	1,732,000
Grants and Donations	148,205	110,470
Registrations	269,750	163,500
Shared Services	45,000	45,000
Total Income	<u>25,441,067</u>	<u>24,434,419</u>
<b>Expenses</b>		
Personnel		
GNJ Staff	5,008,124	
Clergy Benefit Billings	8,807,394	
Retiree Health Insurance	2,037,175	
Total All Personnel	15,852,693	15,668,304
Leadership Development	175,318	185,800
Congregational Development	1,068,250	1,016,500
Mission and Justice Ministries	1,283,000	1,027,842
Agency Budgets	70,100	76,300
Administration	428,750	392,120
Communications	551,000	554,500
Property	6,203,140	5,457,270
Bridge Fund	0	50,000
Total GNJ Expenses	<u>25,632,251</u>	<u>24,428,636</u>
GNJ Income Over / (Under) Expenses	<u>(191,184)</u>	<u>5,783</u>
2021 Surplus funds	<u>200,000</u>	
Net surplus / (deficit)	<u>8,816</u>	
<b><u>General Church Apportionments</u></b>		
Apportionment Base	63,963,783	66,264,500
General Church Apportionment \$'s	1,924,950	1,924,950
General Church Apportionment %	3.0%	2.9%

1 **2022 Budget Addendum Legislation**

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A vibrant and vital young people’s ministry is essential for the health and vitality of GNJ.

In 1996 the camping and retreat ministry was incorporated to reduce liability for the annual conference related to camping ministry. The new nonprofit organization, Conference Committee on Camps and Retreats (CCCR) owned and operated the camps and their ministry. In 2017, United Methodists of Greater New Jersey voted to expand the oversight of CCCR and changed the name of CCCR to be Next Generation Ministries (Next Gen). Next Gen was tasked to provide direction and oversight to youth and campus ministries, in addition to camping.

Since 2017, the Next Generation Ministries' Board of Trustees and staff made progress on the implementation of the Next Generation Ministries 10-Year Strategic Plan for GNJ growing Ignite to more than 1,500 participants, expanding campus ministries from 3 to 8, and developing the leadership of young people’s ministries. While there was significant progress, two challenges have been hard to overcome.

1. Camping and retreat ministries at the Pinelands Center and Camp Aldersgate is not sustainable because over many years there has been a shift in the value ascribed to camping by families, a decrease in the number of young people in our congregations, the failure to modernize camping and retreat centers and the lack of resources to address deferred maintenance.
2. The COVID-19 Pandemic which hit and cancelled many programs and events.

Operating as a separate nonprofit has added costs to Next Gen for auditing, accounting and operations at a time when camping and retreat ministry was declining, and the pandemic inhibited other programs that were growing, like IGNITE for example.

**Next Gen as a separate corporation is no longer sustainable - yet a vibrant and vital young people’s ministry is essential for the health and vitality of GNJ.**

Next Gen has a comprehensive 10-year strategic plan that remains viable once the pandemic is over. To bridge to that time and reactivate conference-wide young people ministry, the board of Next Gen with the support of the GNJ Council of Finance and Administration has voted to fold back the Next Gen program and ministry back into GNJ programming and accounting. This would simplify accounting and operations and save money. The ministry will operate with a balanced budget and not require additional funding through shared ministry. The Next Gen entity would not be closed but be made dormant for now.

**Whereas** Next Gen as a separate corporation is no longer sustainable - yet a vibrant and vital young people’s ministry is essential for the health and vitality of GNJ.

**Whereas** Next Generation Ministries (Next Gen) and GNJ remain committed to the very important youth ministry programs and developing the next generation of disciples.

**Whereas** GNJ’s Council on Finance and Administration supports the decision to have the separate legal entity associated with Next Gen go dormant and to consolidate the operations of these ministries back into GNJ’s operating budget.

**Whereas** this is a budget neutral change and will have no impact on Next Gen’s progress towards its goals while providing GNJ’s Annual Conference greater transparency on where money is being spent and significantly simplify the accounting process.

1 **Be it resolved** that the Next Gen board will continue in an advisory capacity to the ministry of Next Gen; and  
 2  
 3 **Be it further resolved** that the Next Gen budget as identified in the following table be merged with the GNJ  
 4 budget and going forward the Next Gen finances be reported in GNJ financial reporting.  
 5  
 6

**GNJ 2022 Budget Addendum**

	<u><b>2022</b></u>
<b><u>Next Gen Income:</u></b>	
GNJ Contribution	170,000
Reserve Interest (Aldersgate Proceeds)	25,000
Camping	13,500
Youth Activities	139,500
Total Income	<u>348,000</u>
<b><u>Next Gen Expenses:</u></b>	
Personnel	113,612
Operations	6,000
Camping	71,500
Youth Activities	181,100
Total Expenses	<u>372,212</u>
Next Gen Surplus/(Deficit)	<u>(24,212)</u>
<b><u>Changes to GNJ 2022 Expense budget</u></b>	
Audit (change in audit firm)	(23,000)
Postage/supplies	(1,500)
<b>Net Change in GNJ Surplus/(Deficit)</b>	<b><u>288</u></b>
(vs. October 2021 Adjourned Session)	

7  
 8  
 9 Submitted by Vasanth Victor, Eric Drew, Sam Perez

# 1 Local Church Contributions to the BSA Bankruptcy Settlement

## 3 BACKGROUND

5 The BSA filed bankruptcy in February of 2020 to address sexual abuse claims against the BSA dating from  
6 1939 to 2020. An Ad Hoc Committee – comprised of eight annual conference chancellors, two lawyers from  
7 the General Council on Finance and Administration, two staff members of the General Commission on  
8 United Methodist Men, and two bishops – has been providing oversight to legal counsel retained by the Ad  
9 Hoc Committee to look out for the interests of the alleged survivors and all United Methodist congregations  
10 that have chartered BSA troops. More than 9,000 United Methodist congregations, including 202 in GNJ,  
11 filed proofs of claim in the BSA bankruptcy case.

13 United Methodists participated in the bankruptcy mediation process with five goals.

- 14 1. Healing and support for survivors
- 15 2. Releases from claims related to sexual abuse for United Methodist congregations that chartered Boy  
16 Scout troops and Cub packs
- 17 3. Releases for all charter organizations
- 18 4. Preservation of congregations' and annual conferences' insurance
- 19 5. A fair and just financial settlement

21 Pending court approval of the settlement agreement in the Boy Scouts of America (BSA) bankruptcy case,  
22 United Methodists have agreed to contribute \$30 million to a \$3 billion Survivor Trust Fund that will receive  
23 contributions from the Boy Scouts of America (BSA), insurance companies and charter organizations.

25 In addition to a financial contribution to the Survivors Trust Fund, United Methodists are committing to the  
26 following:

- 27 1. Provide an opportunity for survivors to share their experiences and hopes for the church
- 28 2. Publish a series of articles about the Boy Scout bankruptcy case and the sexual abuse of young  
29 people in denominational publications and U.S. annual conference communication resources.
- 30 3. Review all Safe Sanctuary/Ministry Safe policies and procedures for congregations in the U.S. to  
31 ensure they are up to date and are being followed.
- 32 4. Ensure that all BSA chartered organizations receive a release for Boy Scout-related claims. While  
33 United Methodists have the capacity to organize and have legal representation, most chartering  
34 organizations do not. Small community nonprofits, small denominations (including sister  
35 denominations of the Pan-Methodist Commission), parent-teacher associations, grange halls and  
36 many other chartered organizations were not represented in the mediation process, leaving them  
37 vulnerable to future lawsuits. Our United Methodist mediators advocated for their release from BSA  
38 claims, not only to assist them but also to help ensure that scouting will be able to continue. As part  
39 of securing the release for all charter organizations, United Methodists committed to work toward  
40 raising an additional \$100 million from chartering organizations for whom we helped to obtain a  
41 release. This is to be a good faith effort and the \$100 million is a goal, not a guarantee.
- 42 5. The Methodist Church will provide a representative to the survivor working group that will work to  
43 make Scouting and youth programs safer for young people.

1 **Whereas** GNJ has been allocated the amount of \$910,420 as our contribution to the \$30M settlement in the  
2 BSA bankruptcy case,  
3

4 **Whereas** GNJ Council on Finance and Administration and Board of Trustees unanimously approved, using the  
5 emergency fund distribution provision of the Designated Fund Policy, to contribute to GNJ's \$910,420 share  
6 of the \$30M settlement, which is to be paid following the court settlement so that survivors can receive  
7 compensation quickly and fairly,  
8

9 **And whereas,** United Methodists of Greater New Jersey do not tolerate sexual abuse of any kind and have  
10 consistently worked to keep young people safe, and are committed to the financial restitution, healing,  
11 educational and preventative commitments of the BSA bankruptcy settlement,  
12

13 **Be it resolved** that the Greater New Jersey Annual Conference affirms GNJ participating in the BSA  
14 Bankruptcy settlement, including the contribution to the Survivor Trust Fund.  
15

16 **Be it further resolved** that every GNJ congregation participate in the commitments of the BSA Settlement,  
17 including:  
18

- 19 ● To review, update and implement their Safe Sanctuaries policy.
- 20 ● Share articles about the BSA bankruptcy case and settlement.
- 21 ● Participate in the opportunity for survivors to share their experience and hopes for the church.  
22

23 **Be it further resolved** that CFA and the Board of Trustees contribute 25% of the \$910,420 settlement  
24 contribution to assist with the settlement cost.  
25

26 **Be it further resolved** that the remaining balance of GNJ's financial contribution to the settlement be billed  
27 to each congregation proportionately to their 2021 shared ministry percentage over a three-year period of  
28 time to ensure equitable distribution.  
29

- 30 ● \$910,420 total GNJ Survivor Trust Fund Contribution
- 31 ● Share of CFA and Board of Trustees is \$227,605 contribution
- 32 ● Share of GNJ congregations in aggregate is \$682,815 contribution Illustrative calculation for a  
33 church with a \$15,000 yearly shared ministry apportionment:
  - 34 ● 0.15% is the proportional allocation for this congregation with a \$15,000 shared ministry  
35 apportionment relative to the total shared ministry allocation to all GNJ churches.
  - 36 ● \$1,024 is the congregation's allocation
  - 37 ● \$340 per year over 3 years is the church's contribution to the Survivor Trust  
38

39 Submitted by Vasanth Victor  
40

## 41 **Arrearage Policy for Clergy Salaries** 42

43 **Be it resolved that the Greater New Jersey Conference adopt the following arrearage policy for Clergy**  
44 **Salaries:**  
45

- 46 1. In the event that the local church treasurer becomes aware that the church will be unable to provide  
47 to the pastor full payment of a regularly scheduled salary, or housing allowance installment, or

1 pension payment, or health insurance payment, the church treasurer shall immediately notify both  
2 verbally (within 24 hours) and in writing (within 3 days) the Pastor, the Lay Leader, and the Chairs of  
3 S/PPRC, Finance, Trustees, and the Church Council or equivalent of the impending arrearage. Upon  
4 receipt of such notice, the Chair of S/PPRC and/or the Pastor shall immediately notify the District  
5 Superintendent and congregation of the impending arrearage. It is the pastor's responsibility to keep  
6 copies of all such written notifications, and to provide additional written confirmation to the District  
7 Superintendent when an arrearage has taken place. Failure to document salary or benefit arrearages  
8 may result in a loss of compensation.

- 9
- 10 2. Upon receipt of notice of a pending arrearage, the Chair of S/PPRC shall meet with the Pastor, Lay  
11 Leader, and Chairs of Finance, Trustees, and the Church Council to discuss the financial situation and  
12 seek remedies to prevent an arrearage from occurring. Consistent with The Book of Discipline ¶1624,  
13 such remedies cannot include a reduction in the Pastor's compensation until the beginning of the  
14 next Conference year.
  - 15
  - 16 3. If after consultation among these leaders it becomes apparent that the church may be facing a long-  
17 term financial crisis, the Chair of S/PPRC shall notify in writing the Pastor, congregation, and District  
18 Superintendent to consider potential solutions including but not limited to developing a payment  
19 plan so that the pastor receives full payment of compensation, full benefit payments are made by  
20 the end of the fiscal and/or appointment year. The District Superintendent may refer this to another  
21 appropriate resource person to work with the church towards resolution of the situation.
  - 22
  - 23 4. If the local church is already receiving a subsidy grant, the District Superintendent or designee will  
24 determine if all subsidy grant funds allocated to the church were used to pay the pastor's salary.
  - 25
  - 26 5. It is the responsibility of the pastor to provide evidence of an arrearage by providing documentation  
27 such as: Treasurer's Reports, Charge Conference reports, check stubs, etc.
  - 28
  - 29 6. The statute of limitations for any salary arrearage is one year from the date of the initial  
30 arrearage. However, once an appointment ends the Pastor no longer has claim on the local church  
31 for compensation funds (¶1342.4).
  - 32

33 Submitted by Steven Bechtold

## 34

### 35 **Standards for Parsonages (Revised January 2022)**

36

37 Be It Resolved that the following recommendation be adopted as the standards for parsonages for GNJUMC  
38 effective July 1, 2022.

#### 39 **Responsible Group in the Church**

40

41 The Book of Discipline does not mandate a parsonage committee; however, it is strongly recommended that  
42 each local church which has responsibility for a parsonage form a parsonage committee. The committee will  
43 follow-up to assure timely resolution of parsonage problems affecting the health and safety of the pastor  
44 and/or pastor's family (much like a landlord). The chairpersons of the S/PPRC, Board of Trustees and the  
45 pastor shall make an annual review of the church-owned parsonage to assure proper maintenance and up-  
46 keep. (¶1258.2 g(16) and ¶12532.4).

1 **Standards for Existing Parsonages**

2 All parsonages shall meet local requirements for a Certificate of Occupancy. It is the responsibility of the  
3 Board of Trustees to be familiar with these requirements.

4  
5 For existing parsonages, each local charge shall provide and maintain the following furnishings, equipment,  
6 and services:

- 7 1. Living room and family room furniture.
- 8 2. Dining room furniture.
- 9 3. Kitchen appliances including stove, refrigerator with separate freezer compartment, exhaust fan, and  
10 dishwasher.
- 11 4. Furnishings for special rooms such as sun porch, den, etc. that may be different from one charge to  
12 another.
- 13 5. Laundry equipment – automatic washer and dryer.
- 14 6. Standard television connection (providing at least 30 channels/basic cable package), high speed  
15 internet service fast enough to support streaming where available, and one telephone line (cell or  
16 land line). As churches/parsonages are located in a variety of geographical areas, we encourage  
17 discussion at the local church level to provide comparable communication services and cost saving  
18 measures such as bundling of services.
- 19 7. Floor coverings (solid surfaces are preferred).
- 20 8. Functioning window shades and blinds, or curtains/drapes.
- 21 9. One fire extinguisher in kitchen and one extinguisher outside of the furnace room. There shall be at  
22 least one extinguisher per floor level. All fire extinguishers, smoke detectors and Carbon Monoxide  
23 detectors are to be in compliance with local code requirements for rental properties and certificate  
24 of occupancy.
- 25 10. Closets or free-standing storage units in each bedroom.
- 26 11. Drive and walkways should be hard surfaced.
- 27 12. Minimally acceptable outside light for safety to illuminate walkways and driveways.
- 28 13. Trash cans. In municipalities where garbage pickup is not part of the tax base and is billed to the  
29 parsonage, that local church is responsible to pay for this service.
- 30 14. Suitable equipment for lawn care and snow removal corresponding to the size and condition of  
31 lawns/driveways/walkways and/or appropriate lawn/plowing services.
- 32 15. A study for the pastor in either the parsonage or church building. Office furnishings shall include a  
33 desk, desk chair, minimally acceptable shelving for the pastor’s library, additional chairs, and a  
34 locking filing cabinet.
- 35 16. Parsonage electrical service shall conform to the current National Electrical Code.
- 36 17. Parsonages shall be supplied with adequate HVAC systems commensurate with local conditions.
- 37 18. Parking space for a minimum of one (1) car shall be provided.
- 38 19. The septic or sewer system shall be fully functional and meet the needs of the parsonage family.  
39 Maintenance of septic systems is the responsibility of the church.
- 40 20. In parsonages where there is a well, testing of water on a periodic basis should be done consistent  
41 with local health codes for rental properties.
- 42 21. Radon testing is to be done periodically consistent with EPA standards and local requirements.

43  
44 **Additional Suggestions**

- 45 1. Electrical service to be inspected every five (5) years by a licensed electrician
- 46 2. Roof inspection every five (5) years
- 47 3. Energy audits every five (5) years

48

1 **Responsibility**

2 **1. Each pastor is responsible for:**

- 3 a. Furnishings for as many bedrooms as the family needs
- 4 b. Personal items such as television, vacuum cleaner, small appliances, dishes, glassware,
- 5 flatware, cleaning tools, wastebaskets, and decorative accessories
- 6 c. The following regular maintenance
- 7 i. Routine cleaning
- 8 ii. Floor maintenance
- 9 iii. Trash disposal and recycling
- 10 d. It is expected that the pastor shall provide tenant (renters) insurance to cover property loss
- 11 and personal liability.
- 12 e. Restitution for any damage beyond normal wear and tear.
- 13 f. At the time of a move, the current pastor shall remove all personal items and furniture from
- 14 the parsonage and property and shall leave the parsonage in a “broom clean” state. Pastors
- 15 are responsible for cleaning and disinfecting all surfaces such as kitchen counters, appliances
- 16 and cabinets, bathroom fixtures, and church owned furniture that has been used by the
- 17 parsonage family during their time in the parsonage.
- 18

19 **2. Each charge shall provide:**

- 20 a. Utilities – heat, electric, gas/oil, sewage, cable, internet, and basic telephone, as well as any
- 21 property taxes or HOA fees that are assessed to the parsonage.
- 22 b. Maintenance for all parsonage equipment
- 23 c. Basic furniture for all rooms except the bedrooms (see above)
- 24 d. Funds for the repair of the parsonage and its maintenance should be allocated and allowed
- 25 to accumulate so that continuing care and major repairs can be made when needed.
- 26 e. At the time of a move, the church is responsible for cleaning and preparing the parsonage
- 27 for the new pastor and her/his family. This includes washing or dry-cleaning curtains and
- 28 drapes, cleaning window blinds, shampooing carpets and/or washing floor coverings,
- 29 washing windows, cleaning disinfecting garbage cans, doorknobs, etc.
- 30 f. Congregations and pastors are expected to follow the guidelines of the state and the CDC
- 31 with regard to effective and proper cleaning procedures of parsonages at the time of a
- 32 pastoral change. The most updated information for cleaning and disinfection is available on
- 33 the CDC website at <https://www.cdc.gov/>.
- 34

35 **3. Miscellaneous**

- 36 a. The parsonage is the pastor’s home for his/her tenure in that church or charge. S/he has,
- 37 therefore, the responsibility to care for the home and its furnishings from damage by pets or
- 38 people and, if it is damaged, to return the home to a condition equal to that when s/he
- 39 received it to use. If an item of furniture is damaged beyond repair, s/he is obligated to
- 40 replace it.
- 41 b. The right of the pastor to own furniture and equipment cannot be challenged. However, if
- 42 s/he does own furniture and goods that s/he wishes to use in the parsonage, and parsonage
- 43 furnishings have to be stored, s/he should make every effort to store it properly, so it is in
- 44 good condition and does not suffer damage from being in storage. The site or method of
- 45 storage for any church owned furniture shall be determined by mutual agreement between
- 46 the pastor and the Board of Trustees. The pastor assumes financial responsibility for the
- 47 storage of any unused furniture.

- c. The pastor's family shall be permitted to purchase an all-electronic vehicle (EV) or a plugin hybrid and charge it at the parsonage. The expense of the charger and any electrical improvements to the parsonage are the sole responsibility of the pastor's family. All improvements to the parsonage must be approved by the local church board of Trustees and must meet all applicable local codes. Before purchasing the said vehicle, the pastor's family and the appropriate committees in the church must negotiate how the increased electrical expenses will be handled.
- d. We recommend that in addition to the required written reports filed annually with the Church Conference paperwork, there be a complete video/photo inventory of all church-owned furnishings in the parsonage. The inventory and all videos and photos should be updated annually as needed.
- e. It is the responsibility of the Parsonage Committee to be acquainted with the parsonage and, after a new pastoral appointment is made, meet with the incoming parsonage family to discuss the minimum acceptability of housing and furnishings, and to meet annually thereafter with the parsonage family.
- f. At the time of a new pastoral appointment, the chairs of the S/PPRC and the Board of Trustees, the current pastor and the incoming pastor will walk through the parsonage together for inspection and planning. It is recommended to utilize the Church Conference parsonage inspection report as a guide.
- g. In order to respect the privacy of clergy and families, the church has a responsibility to make an appointment and secure the approval of the pastor or an adult member of the household prior to visiting the parsonage at any time.
- h. Given the great differences in housing costs throughout GNJ, a church and/or pastor who wishes to provide for a housing allowance rather than providing a parsonage must take into consideration comparable housing costs for that community to set an appropriate allowance that provides for the pastor and his/her family needs. Churches and pastors exploring this option should be in conversation with the District Superintendent at the very beginning of these considerations to understand the implications for future appointments, and the Disciplinary requirements for potential sale of an existing parsonage if applicable.

#### 4. Multiple Church Appointments and Clergy Couples

- a. In appointments where a clergy person is appointed to more than one church and a parsonage is provided by one of the churches, the utility expenses (heat, water, and electric) will be divided equally between the churches. Any capital improvements and maintenance on the parsonage are the responsibility of the church that owns the parsonage.
- b. In cases of clergy couples when the couple resides in the parsonage of one of the appointments, the utility expenses will be divided equally between the appointments provided that housing is considered as a part of the compensation package for each of the clergy. In situations where both persons in a clergy couple are utilizing their respective parsonages, each church will provide utilities for their own pastor.

#### Standards for Parsonages (Purchasing or Building a New Parsonage)

1. All parsonages shall meet local requirements for a Certificate of Occupancy.
2. The District Committee on Church Location and Building must be consulted in developing plans for all purchases or construction of a new parsonage.
3. All newly constructed or newly purchased parsonages shall be in full compliance with the Book of Discipline. Consideration shall be made for those with handicapping conditions.

1 *Provide on the ground-floor of a newly constructed parsonage: (1) one room that can be used as a*  
2 *bedroom by a person with a disability; (2) a fully accessible bathroom; and (3) fully accessible laundry*  
3 *facilities (§2544.4d)*

- 4 4. Churches considering selling their current parsonage and purchasing a new one need to explore  
5 property tax implications as well as leans on the property that may need to be considered in  
6 potential financing.  
7

#### 8 **Option 1**

- 9 1. The use of maintenance-free materials in building and in finishing and furnishing, thus contributing  
10 towards keeping maintenance costs lower.  
11 2. The following room requirements:  
12 a. Living Room/Family Room  
13 b. Dining Room  
14 c. Kitchen  
15 d. Study  
16 e. Baths (2)  
17 f. Bedrooms (3)  
18 3. A minimal electrical service of 200 amperes  
19 4. A garage of a size to accommodate 2 cars, plus room for storage of lawn mowers, bicycles, tools,  
20 garden equipment, ladders, paint supplies, etc.  
21 5. Space to store large articles of furniture/equipment  
22 6. The use of materials meeting the most energy efficient standards for insulation and windows  
23 7. Careful consideration should be given in choosing the location of the parsonage. This consideration  
24 might include the distance from the church, accessibility from main streets of the community and  
25 the church, the neighborhood and its future, and the community itself and its future growth.  
26

#### 27 **Option 2**

- 28 1. The standards of Option One would apply with consideration by the church of purchasing, leasing,  
29 renting a townhouse or condominium. This option would be negotiated by the District  
30 Superintendent, the local charge and the pastor following consultation with the District Committee  
31 on Church Location and Building  
32 2. The purpose of this option is to provide an alternative to the “traditional” church parsonage for  
33 ministry in special situations. Allowing for the wide variety of townhouse/condo choices, it is difficult  
34 to recommend a single standard for such settings.  
35

#### 36 **Appeals**

37 Appeals by the churches or pastors on any of the above provisions should be made to the District  
38 Superintendent who has the final authority to interpret and implement the foregoing standards.  
39

40 Submitted by Steven Bechtold  
41  
42

1 **Equitable Compensation Recommendation for 2023**

2  
3 **Whereas** The Commission on Equitable Compensation in seeking to support quality pastoral leadership to  
4 help United Methodists of Greater New Jersey to grow in all areas of vitality recommends the following:  
5

6 **Be It Resolved That** the Greater New Jersey Annual Conference adopt the following recommendation for  
7 required minimum salary for persons under full-time appointment in the local church effective January 1,  
8 2023.

- 9 a. Elder and Deacon in Full Connection: \$50,735
- 10 b. Provisional and Associate Members: \$47,160
- 11 c. Full Time Local Pastor: \$44,625

12  
13 Any changes in clergy ministry salaries related to a change in clergy status through ordination,  
14 commissioning, or licensing in 2022 will become effective as of January 1, 2023.  
15

16 These salaries apply to clergy (elder and deacon in full connection, provisional elder and deacon, associate  
17 members, and local pastors) serving in full-time appointments in the local church. The years of service for  
18 each clergy can be found on the Clergy Service Record at Wespath (General Board of Pension and Health  
19 Benefits). In calculating years of service, time on leave of absence is not counted in accumulated years of  
20 service.  
21

22 For purposes of pension credit and years of service calculations, the minimum equitable salary for ¾ time  
23 pastoral appointments shall be ¾ of the required minimum in the pastor’s cash salary. The minimum  
24 equitable salary for ½ time pastoral appointments shall be ½ of the required minimum. All appointments less  
25 than ½ shall be considered ¼ time appointments, and salaries shall be determined by the District  
26 Superintendent in consultation with the pastor and the local church S/PPRC.  
27

28 Each pastor’s salary is determined by the local church or charge in consultation with the District  
29 Superintendent provided that the required minimum salary is met. In determining a recommendation for  
30 salary, each Staff/Pastor Parish Relations Committee shall take into consideration the pastor’s years of  
31 experience, education, leadership ability, health and dental coverage, social security, family needs, and  
32 comparable salaries of other professionals in the community.  
33

34 All full-time pastors shall be provided with a parsonage that meets parsonage standards adopted by GNJ or a  
35 housing/rental allowance as part of their total compensation package.  
36

37 All full-time pastors shall have an accountable reimbursement expense line item in the church budget to  
38 cover mileage for pastoral work, continuing education, and other professional ministerial expenses as  
39 allowed by the IRS. The reimbursable amount shall be at least \$2,500. For churches receiving Equitable  
40 Compensation support, their accountable reimbursement should not exceed \$2,500.  
41

42 **Vacation Policy:**

43 All pastors regardless of full or part time status shall be entitled to receive the following vacation per  
44 appointment year:

45 4 weeks (including 4 Sundays) of vacation consistent with the average work week; with 5 weeks (including 5  
46 Sundays) after 10 years of full-time or equivalent part time service consistent with the Clergy Service Record.  
47

1 Vacation time shall not be cumulative from year to year. Time spent in leadership responsibility in  
2 conference/district activities shall not be considered vacation time. This includes Course of Study, Local  
3 Pastors Licensing School, Camps, Annual Conference related Ministries, and other education and renewal as  
4 required by the Book of Discipline (§1350.2).

5  
6 In setting clergy compensation, local church Staff/Pastor Parish Relations Committees are encouraged to  
7 consider a minimum of \$300 per year of service increment above the basic minimum compensation up to a  
8 maximum 15 years. Years of service are determined by the number of full-time years (or equivalent) fully  
9 completed prior to January 1, 2023.

10  
11 Submitted by Steven Bechtold

12  
13 **Proposed Amendment to Rule 64, Concerning Nominations for Delegates to the**  
14 **General and Jurisdictional Conferences (Substitute for Prior Proposals By Gyuchang Sim,**  
15 **The Rules Committee, and Creed Pogue)**

16  
17 **Whereas,** At the last Annual Conference session, there was pending legislation on Rule 64 regarding  
18 nominations for delegates to the General and Jurisdictional Conferences;

19  
20 **And whereas,** the Rules Committee had recommended in favor of a proposal by Gyuchang Sim (as modified),  
21 and recommended against a substitute proposal by Creed Pogue;

22  
23 **And whereas,** near the end of that Annual Conference such pending proposals were referred back to the  
24 Rules Committee for clarification;

25  
26 **And whereas,** the Rules Committee has reviewed such referred proposals again, and has sought to clarify  
27 and improve the process, with the goal of broadening the diversity in the nominations for delegates;

28  
29 **Be It Resolved That** in Rule 64 (Nominations), in the first line of the rule, delete the phrase “In a year in  
30 which elections to the General and Jurisdictional Conferences” and insert “In a year in which elections to the  
31 General or Jurisdictional Conferences”.

32  
33 After “nominations will be closed on February 15”, insert:

34  
35 “or such other date as the Conference Secretary shall establish. Not less than ten  
36 days before such initial date for closing pre-Conference nominations, the Conference  
37 Secretary shall refer information concerning nominations submitted to date to the  
38 Commission on Religion and Race (CORR) and the Committee on the Status and Role  
39 of Women (COSROW), for their review and response within seven days.

40  
41 “If by the end of the seven days, either COSROW or CORR reports to the Conference  
42 Secretary that they have concerns regarding the gender, racial and/or ethnic  
43 diversity of the nominations submitted to date, or if not enough nominations have  
44 been submitted to fill all open positions in the Conference’s delegation(s), the  
45 Conference Secretary shall promptly (a) report such concerns to the membership of  
46 the Annual Conference, and (b) extend the deadline for submitting nominations by

1 30 days. In so doing, the Conference Secretary shall remind the members of the  
2 Annual Conference of the importance of diversity in the delegations for GNJ.”  
3

4 **Rationale:** At the last meeting of the Annual Conference, all pending legislation regarding Rule 64 was  
5 referred back to the Rules Committee, because the then-pending proposals were viewed as too vague to be  
6 easily administered by the Conference Secretary. This new proposal from the Rules Committee seeks to  
7 respond to that concern, by adding greater specificity and operational clarity, in connection with the goal of  
8 broadening the diversity of nominees for GNJ’s delegations to the General and Jurisdictional Conferences. It  
9 provides for review by the Commission on Religion and Race (CORR) and the Committee on the Status and  
10 Role of Women (COSROW), the bodies responsible for helping the Annual Conference avoid tacit or  
11 unintentional biases and creates the opportunity to maximize diversity in the nominating process. **Nothing in  
12 this proposal would prevent CORR or COSROW from working together in their reviews, or from engaging  
13 or consulting with other committees or individuals in the course of their reviews.**

14  
15 Submitted by Daniel Gepford  
16

## 17 **Address Rule 64 To Address Inclusivity in A Workable Way**

18

19 **Whereas** the nominations process has been modified in 2019 and GNJ will be facing another round of  
20 nominations in 2023, so decisions must be made this year;  
21

22 **Be it Resolved** Amend Rule 64 Nominations to read as follows:  
23

24 In a year in which elections to the General and Jurisdictional Conferences are to be held, the Conference  
25 Secretary shall open nominations for lay and clergy delegates on December 15 of the year preceding the  
26 Conference Session. By Feb. 28th the Conference Secretary will published those nominations which are  
27 received by Feb. 15th. The conference secretary will publish these nominations on the conference website  
28 and by any additional methods of her/his choosing, there shall be a continued opportunity to place names in  
29 nomination up until March 31st, particularly in order to assist the conference members in fulfilling our desire  
30 to nominate a diverse and inclusive pool of candidates.... (rest of rule continues as originally written)  
31

32 **Rationale:** The changes that were made in 2019 and the later proposal to codify those changes into the rules  
33 creates an unsustainable burden for the office of the Conference Secretary. The Conference Secretary is an  
34 administrative position and asking them to make policy judgments without any criteria is unreasonable and  
35 unfair to the Secretary. This proposal sets an initial deadline as a “safe harbor” for everyone to know that  
36 nominations received by that date will be widely publicized. However, it also provides more time for  
37 nominations to be received in the event that anyone feels there are deficiencies in the pool that exists on  
38 February 15th.  
39

40 Submitted by Creed Pogue  
41  
42

1 **Proposed Amendment to Rule 19(B), Regarding Pre-Conference Review of**  
2 **Legislation**

3  
4 **Whereas**, the Rules have included various provisions for review of proposals to the Annual Conference, prior  
5 to action by the Annual Conference on them;

6  
7 **And whereas**, the Rules currently provide for no specific process for such referral and review;

8  
9 **And whereas**, effective review would be facilitated by clear time periods and process for such review, this  
10 proposal clarifies procedures for such review, and sets reasonable time periods to allow for the completion  
11 of such review.

12  
13 **Be It Resolved That:** In Rule 19(b)(i) after “received by the Annual Conference offices by”, delete “the first  
14 business day in March” and insert “January 31”.

15  
16 At the end of Rule 19(b)(i), insert: “Such submissions shall be made through the Conference website or by  
17 such other means as the Conference Secretary may establish. The Conference Secretary shall promptly refer  
18 all such submissions to CORR and COSROW for review for explicit or implicit bias. The Conference Secretary  
19 shall also promptly refer proposals and recommendations that affect the Conference Rules to the Rules  
20 Committee, and proposals and recommendations that affect the budget or finances of the Conference to the  
21 Committee on Finance and Administration, for their review.

22  
23 CORR and COSROW, the Rules Committee, and CF&A shall have two weeks after such referral to conduct a  
24 review and submit any recommendations and/or proposed changes. Any such recommendations and/or  
25 proposed changes shall be submitted to the Conference Secretary and copied to the person(s) or  
26 organization originally submitting the proposals or recommendations.

27  
28 Such persons or organizations shall then have ten days to submit any revisions to be included in the Pre-  
29 Conference Workbook.”

30  
31 In Rule 19(b)(ii), delete “March 1” and insert “January 31 (or such other deadline as the Conference  
32 Secretary may establish)”.

33  
34 **Rationale:** The Rules have included various provisions for review of proposals to the Annual Conference,  
35 prior to action by the Annual Conference on them. This proposal clarifies procedures for such review, and  
36 sets reasonable time periods to allow for the completion of such review. **Nothing in this proposal would**  
37 **prevent CORR or COSROW from working together in their reviews, or from engaging or consulting with**  
38 **other committees or individuals in the course of their reviews.**

39  
40 Submitted by Daniel Gepford

41  
42

1 **Resolution in Support of the Protocol of Reconciliation and Grace Through**  
2 **Separation**

3  
4 **Whereas**, a diverse group of United Methodist leaders, called together by the late Bishop John Yambasu and  
5 presided over by the renowned attorney Kenneth Feinberg, negotiated an agreement (the Protocol of  
6 Reconciliation and Grace through Separation, hereafter the “Protocol”) providing for an amicable and  
7 orderly separation of The United Methodist Church (hereafter “UM Church);  
8

9 **Whereas** irreconcilable differences among the people of the UM Church have created a stalemate leading to  
10 declines in church membership, average worship attendance, financial support, and mission vitality;  
11

12 **Whereas** the UM Church’s very public dispute has tarnished the reputation of the Church catholic;  
13

14 **Whereas**, the Protocol has been endorsed by nine major advocacy groups representing different sides of the  
15 conflict, including Africa Initiative, The Confessing Movement, Good News, Mainstream UMC, Reconciling  
16 Ministries Network, UMAction, UMCNext, Uniting Methodists, and the Wesleyan Covenant Association;  
17

18 **Whereas** the members of the team that negotiated and produced the Protocol included eight active Bishops  
19 of the UM Church, including past and current Presidents of the Council of Bishops (Gregory Palmer, Kenneth  
20 Carter, Cynthia Fierro Harvey, and Thomas Bickerton); and,  
21

22 **Whereas** the Protocol’s implementing legislation has been submitted to the Commission on General  
23 Conference by several annual conferences pursuant to ¶ 507 of The Book of Discipline of the United  
24 Methodist Church.  
25

26 **Now, therefore, be it resolved** that the Greater New Jersey Annual Conference hereby supports, and urges  
27 its General Conference delegates to vote for, the passage of the Protocol of Reconciliation and Grace  
28 Through Separation when said legislation comes before the next General Conference session; and,  
29

30 **Further, be it resolved** that the Greater New Jersey Annual Conference urges its agencies and leadership to  
31 work through matters of local church separation because of issues of conscience with the same grace as  
32 envisioned in The Protocol.  
33

34 **Rationale:** The irreconcilable differences in the UM Church have undermined the health and vitality of local  
35 churches. The differences also threaten the effectiveness and existence of its various general boards and  
36 agencies. The very public debate over our differences has also tarnished the reputation of the Church  
37 catholic. While other Protestant denominations facing a similar situation have engaged in rancorous and  
38 costly civil litigation over property and assets, our hope is to end our dispute in a spirit of reconciliation and  
39 grace as we part ways from one another. The Protocol provides a way for the people of the UM Church to  
40 act with integrity as we bless one another to live out our different visions of ministry. This resolution, while  
41 not binding, indicates the Greater New Jersey Annual Conference’s support for the plan negotiated by a  
42 diverse group of UM Church leaders called the Protocol of Reconciliation and Grace through Separation.  
43  
44

1 Other conferences have adopted similar resolutions, including Baltimore-Washington in our own  
2 Northeastern Jurisdiction by a 76% vote; "progressive" Conferences such as Rocky Mountain with 86% and  
3 California-Pacific with 64%; as well as "traditionalist" Conferences like North Georgia (also the largest  
4 Conference in the USA) with 65% and Northeast Texas with 82%. The Protocol is the only proposal for  
5 moving us forward with strong support across The United Methodist Church.  
6

7 Submitted by Creed Pogue  
8

## 9 Integrity of the Annual Conference Journal

10

11 **Whereas** the Book of Discipline Para. 606 *Records and Archives* mandates that “the Annual conference shall  
12 keep an exact record of its proceedings according to the forms provided by the General, jurisdictional, and  
13 central conferences.”  
14

15

15 **Whereas** the resident bishop and conference secretary officially certified the records of the reports and  
16 proceedings in the 2020 journal as being “a correct and complete report”,  
17

18

18 **Whereas** the 2020 Conference Journal did not record the daily proceedings correctly and completely on two  
19 significant items- to be referenced below- and therefore this raises questions and/or doubts about the  
20 integrity of the report.  
21

22

22 **Whereas** to be specific, a series of questions of law raised during the first day of the conference pertaining to  
23 a property - the parsonage of the Belmar United Methodist Church, that the resident bishop claimed he had  
24 purchased from the Belmar United Methodist Church.  
25

26

26 **Whereas** the question of law was submitted to the conference secretary in writing as follows:  
27

28

“Question of Law

29

In reference to the resolutions “Trustees Enabling Resolutions” and “Church  
30 Closures”, what is the constitutionality, application, meaning, and effect of BOD  
31 paragraph 2506.1. and 2702.1.c. in the case of acquiring the property of closing  
32 church, the First UMC of Belmar, by the resident bishop who has to approve “to sell,  
33 transfer, lease or convey any real or personal property for such price and at such  
34 time” that is in violation of the federal, state, and local laws as conflicts of interest?  
35

36

Further, what is the constitutionality, application, meaning, and effect of BOD  
37 paragraph 2506.1. and 2702.1.c. in the case of closing of the First UMC of Belmar  
38 with a scheme of acquiring the property by the resident bishop who has to approve  
39 “to sell, transfer, lease or convey any real or personal property for such price and  
40 such time” that is in violation of the federal, state, and local law as conflicts of  
41 interest?  
42

43

Further, what is the constitutionality, application, meaning, and effect of BOD  
44 paragraph 2512.6 in the case of the procedure of any and all transaction of the  
45 residence of the resident bishop of the GNJUMC at the property of the Belmar UMC,  
46 that the board of trustees has not been disclosed to or approved by the GNJAC as  
47 mandated by the paragraph 2512.6?”  
48

48

1 **Whereas**, the above questions of law had been omitted in the record of the daily proceeding, page 162, of  
2 the 2020 conference journal and replaced by a second set of questions of law submitted on the second day  
3 of the conference which were stated as follows:

4  
5 “Question of Law Gyuchang Sim raised a Question of Law:

6 1. Question of Law of nepotism. In reference to the resolution of Nepotism in the  
7 preconference booklet, what is the application, meaning and effect of BOD  
8 paragraph 2702.1.c. in the case of the employment of the resident bishop’s spouse  
9 at A Future with Hope, Nehemiah Properties, and the GNJ conference office where  
10 the bishop has a direct supervision to the positions of the organizations as a CEO of  
11 the GNJUMC and/or a trustee of the organizations such that is in violation of the  
12 federal, state, and local laws as conflicts of interest and/or nepotism?

13  
14 2. Further, what is the application meaning and effect of BOD paragraph 2702.1.c.  
15 in the case of appointing a son of the resident bishop, to the Christ Church Jersey  
16 City, which the GNJUMC has approved its redevelopment of the church property by  
17 the Nehemiah Properties, where the spouse of the resident bishop was hired and  
18 served as a director, and the resident bishop who supervises the business of such  
19 projects in the GNJUMC as a CEO.

20  
21 3. Further, what is the application, meaning and effect of BOD paragraph 2702.1.c.  
22 in the case of employment of a daughter-in law of the resident bishop as a director  
23 at the Drew School of Theology where the resident bishop of the GNJUMC is a  
24 trustee and has a privilege to recommend up to three trustees every year to the  
25 university board of trustees and the employment of trustee’s family member is in  
26 violation of the bylaws of the university, the article II and section 4, as conflicts of  
27 interest and in violation of the federal, state, and local laws as conflicts of interest  
28 and/or nepotism?

29  
30 Following an explanation by GNJ Chancellor Lynn Caterson, which in part stated that  
31 the Book of Discipline says that one person cannot submit a request for declaratory  
32 decision and that declaratory decisions can only be presented on matters that have  
33 already been discussed, Bishop Schol stated that these were not questions of law  
34 but requests for declaratory decision which a bishop may not rule on and therefore  
35 ruled them out of order. But Bishop Schol shared his personal story surrounding the  
36 Belmar property and then provided the opportunity to vote on them as requests for  
37 declaratory decisions and send them to the judicial council. Bishop Schol gave Mr.  
38 Sim the opportunity to speak to the matter. The conference then voted and did not  
39 approve sending them to the judicial council in a vote of 129-400.”  
40

41 **Whereas** the second set of questions on conflict of interest was, indeed, ruled out of order by the bishop  
42 without any further discussion or following procedure and the record of the daily proceeding says,  
43

44 “Question of Law:

45 Gyuchang Sim submitted a Question of Law as it relates to the Nepotism Resolution.  
46 Bishop Schol said this will be processed according to the Book of Discipline. Black  
47 Lives Matter Legislation: Bishop Schol realized we had not taken a final vote on the  
48 Black Lives Matter Legislation. The Conference voted, and it was passed in a vote of

1 372-34. Motion to Extend the Session: A motion was made to extend the ending  
2 time of Conference to 2:30 p.m. to complete the work of Conference. It was  
3 seconded. The conference voted and the motion passed.  
4

5 Nepotism Resolution Gyuchang Sim presented his Nepotism Resolution and moved  
6 for its acceptance. It was seconded. The conference voted, and it did not pass.  
7 CLOSING Bishop Schol gave thanks for all who participated in Annual Conference. He  
8 thanked Rosa Williams, the Conference Lay Leader, for her years of service and Bob  
9 Dietz for his dedicated work to CFA as both had finished their terms.  
10

11 Following up on the Question of Law submitted earlier by Mr. Sim, Bishop Schol said  
12 it was determined to be out of order as it was already resolved earlier in the session.  
13 He adjourned the meeting saying, "Leave as friends in Christ with a renewed mission  
14 for what God has in mind for us." Bishop closed with prayer."  
15

16 **Whereas** this matter of addressing the inaccurate reports in the 2020 annual conference journal was  
17 brought up during the last adjourned session of the 2021 annual conference as a point of order, this matter  
18 was not properly recognized, dealt with, or referred to the secretary of the annual conference.  
19

20 **Whereas** the record has been recently changed after I challenged the record as reported in the conference  
21 journal, and stated that I would bring this discrepancy in the conference journal record to agencies beyond  
22 the GNJAC if a correction to the journal record was not made, i.e., the Council of Bishops, Jurisdictional  
23 conference, the Commission on Achieve and History, the GCFA, etc.  
24

25 **Whereas**, I was contacted by the Director of Connectional Ministries, Eric Drew, and he told me that he  
26 would be handling the matter instead of the conference secretary.  
27

28 **Whereas**, following communications and consultation between the two of us, the record was amended to  
29 correct the original misreporting in the page 162 of the 2020 journal as follows:  
30

31 "Question of Law Bishop Schol explained that Gyuchang Sim had submitted  
32 legislation, an amendment to the Trustees report and Questions of Law, and all were  
33 related to nepotism as referred to in the Pre-Conference Workbook, page 40.  
34

35 The conference secretary read the following Question of Law from Mr. Sim:  
36 "In reference to the resolutions "Trustees Enabling Resolutions" and "Church  
37 Closures",  
38 what is the constitutionality, application, meaning, and effect of BOD paragraph  
39 2506.1. and 2702.1.c. in the case of acquiring the property of closing church, the First  
40 UMC of Belmar, by the resident bishop who has to approve "to sell, transfer, lease or  
41 convey any real or personal property for such price and at such time" that is in  
42 violation of the federal, state, and local laws as conflicts of interest?  
43

44 Further, what is the constitutionality, application, meaning, and effect of BOD  
45 paragraph 2506.1. and 2702.1.c. in the case of closing of the First UMC of Belmar  
46 with a scheme of acquiring the property by the resident bishop who has to approve  
47 "to sell, transfer, lease or convey any real or personal property for such price and

1 such time” that is in violation of the federal, state, and local law as conflicts of  
2 interest?

3  
4 Further, what is the constitutionality, application, meaning, and effect of BOD  
5 paragraph 2512.6 in the case of the procedure of any and all transaction of the  
6 residence of the resident bishop of the GNJUMC at the property of the Belmar UMC,  
7 that the board of trustees has not been disclosed to or approved by the GNJAC as  
8 mandated by the paragraph 2512.6?”  
9

10 Discussion followed to ascertain if this was a Question of Law or a call for a  
11 declaratory decision. Following an explanation by GNJ Chancellor Lynn Catterson,  
12 which in part stated that the Book of Discipline says that one person cannot submit a  
13 request for declaratory decision and that declaratory decisions can only be presented  
14 on matters that have already been discussed, Bishop Schol stated that these were  
15 not questions of law but requests for declaratory decision which a bishop may not  
16 rule on and therefore ruled them out of order. But Bishop Schol shared his personal  
17 story surrounding the Belmar property and then provided the opportunity to vote on  
18 them as requests for declaratory decisions and send them to the judicial council.  
19 Bishop Schol gave Mr. Sim the opportunity to speak to the matter. The conference  
20 then voted and did not approve sending them to the judicial council in a vote of 129-  
21 400.”  
22

23 **Whereas** the pages 165 and 166 in the 2020 conference journal have been corrected as follows:  
24

25 “2020 AC Journal, Daily Proceedings page 165

26 Amendment: Peter Dewes moved to amend the legislation to have line 30 to say,  
27 “To tell and to listen to.” It was accepted as a friendly amendment. Rev. Vanessa  
28 Wilson accepted the amendment. Moment of Privilege Bishop Schol addresses the  
29 issue of racism in our country. He shared that racism is a sin, and we should all work  
30 together to end the sin of racism. Closed Churches – Unfunded Liabilities Priority of  
31 Monies from Closed Churches for Retiree Health Care Rev. Bob Costello spoke about  
32 the two resolutions he presented, ‘Closed Churches – Unfunded Liabilities’ and  
33 ‘Priority of Monies from Closed Churches for Retiree Health Care’ and why he feels  
34 retiree health insurance is important. He expressed his trust in CF&A and withdrew  
35 his legislation.  
36

37 Question of Law Gyuchang Sim submitted a Question of Law as it relates to the  
38 Nepotism Resolution. The conference secretary read the following Question of Law  
39 form Mr. Sim:

40 “Question of Law on nepotism.  
41

42 In reference to the resolution of Nepotism in the preconference booklet, what is the  
43 application, meaning and effect of BOD paragraph 2702.1.c. in the case of the  
44 employment of the resident bishop’s spouse at A Future with Hope, Nehemiah  
45 Properties, and the GNJ conference office where the bishop has a direct supervision  
46 to the positions of the organizations as a CEO of the GNJUMC and/or a trustee of  
47 the organizations such that is in violation of the federal, state, and local laws as  
48 conflicts of interest and/or nepotism?

1 Further, what is the application meaning and effect of BOD paragraph 2702.1.c. in  
2 the case of appointing a son of the resident bishop, to the Christ Church Jersey City,  
3 which the GNJUMC has approved its redevelopment of the church property by the  
4 Nehemiah Properties, where the spouse of the resident bishop was hired and  
5 served as a director, and the resident bishop who supervises the business of such  
6 projects in the GNJUMC as a CEO.  
7

8 Further, what is the application, meaning and effect of BOD paragraph 2702.1.c. in  
9 the case of employment of a daughter-in-law of the resident bishop as a director at  
10 the Drew School of Theology where the resident bishop of the GNJUMC is a trustee  
11 and has a privilege to recommend up to three trustees every year to the university  
12 board of trustees and the employment of trustee’s family member is in violation of  
13 the bylaws of the university, the article II and section 4, as conflicts of interest and in  
14 violation of the federal, state, and local laws as conflicts of interest and/or  
15 nepotism?”

16 Bishop Schol said this will be processed according to the Book of Discipline.  
17

18 Black Lives Matter Legislation Bishop Schol realized we had not taken a final vote on  
19 the Black Lives Matter Legislation. The Conference voted, and it was passed in a  
20 vote of 372-34. Motion to Extend the Session A motion was made to extend the  
21 ending time of Conference to 2:30 p.m. to complete the work of Conference. It was  
22 seconded. The conference voted and the motion passed.  
23

24 Nepotism Resolution Gyuchang Sim presented his Nepotism Resolution and moved  
25 for its acceptance. It was seconded. The conference voted, and it did not pass.  
26

27 CLOSING Bishop Schol gave thanks for all who participated in Annual Conference. He  
28 thanked Rosa Williams, the Conference Lay Leader, for her years of service and Bob  
29 Dietz for his dedicated work to CFA as both had finished their terms.  
30

31 Following up on the Question of Law submitted earlier by Mr. Sim, Bishop Schol said  
32 it was determined to be out of order as it was already resolved earlier in the session.  
33 He adjourned the meeting saying, “Leave as friends in Christ with a renewed mission  
34 for what God has in mind for us.” Bishop closed with prayer.”  
35

36 **Therefore,** be it resolved that the GNJAC affirms the necessity for the reporting in the journal of the annual  
37 conference, when presented as certified, to in fact be “a correct and complete report” of its proceedings.  
38

39 **Be it further resolved** that the 2022 GNJAC thanks the Director of Connectional Ministries, Eric Drew, for  
40 correcting the mistake and having it replaced with the true and correct record in the Journal of the annual  
41 conference and thus maintaining the integrity of the record in order to make it a more faithful, correct, and  
42 complete record of its proceedings.  
43

44 **Be it further resolved** that the 2022 GNJAC request the conference secretary to review the process of how  
45 and why the official reports of the daily proceedings in the 2020 conference journal misrepresented and  
46 misrepresented the above referenced issues.  
47

1 **Be it further resolved** that the Conference secretary report the findings of the review to the 2023 session of  
2 the annual conference, with recommendations on how the integrity of the reports in the conference journal  
3 can be enhanced and proceedings be more accurately reported so that they will be a complete and correct  
4 record of our work together.

5  
6 **Rationale** The 2020 conference journal, originally published after the 2020 conference session, contained a  
7 report of the daily proceedings pertaining to two sets of questions of law that I raised on the first day and on  
8 the second day of the conference. I believe that what was originally reported in the journal was not “a  
9 correct and complete report”. I believe that subsequent events, leading to the corrections that have been  
10 made, supports me in my belief.

11  
12 The original version of the 2020 GNJAC journal, certified on page 166 by Bishop Schol and Conference  
13 Secretary, Rev. Shelley Smith, as “a correct and complete report”, reported a set of questions of law that I  
14 raised on the first day, pertaining to the Belmar UMC’s parsonage, that bishop Schol claimed he had  
15 purchased from the Belmar UMC. Discussion of these questions was delayed to the second day and those  
16 questions were replaced by a second set of questions of law raised during the second day. The second set of  
17 questions pertained to the perception of conflict-of-interest concerns on the part of the actions of the  
18 bishop.

19  
20 The misreporting and misrepresentation not only violated the rules and order of the UMC but also threaten  
21 the integrity of the conference journal which requires that it shall correctly report the exact proceedings of  
22 the annual conference for the examination by the jurisdictional conference as per BOD Para. 606. 1 and the  
23 official record of the annual conference to the denominational agencies: GCFA, the Commission on Achieve  
24 and History, the UMCom, etc.

25  
26 In response to my concern regarding the record of the 2020 conference journal, I received a response from  
27 GNJAC Director of Connectional Ministries, Eric Drew who said that he would handle the matter instead of  
28 the conference secretary. I believe that the fact that the record was ultimately amended to correct the  
29 original misreporting in the 2020 Conference Journal is significant.

30  
31 I believe that the above referenced before and after quotations from the original and amended reporting  
32 does in fact indicate that there indeed was a problem that needed to be addressed and corrected. I  
33 appreciate Eric Drew’s part in this corrective action.

34  
35 This resolution, if passed, will affirm that the GNJAC agrees that the integrity of the conference journal  
36 requires that it be always be a true and correct recording of our conference proceedings. It requests that the  
37 Conference Secretary to do a review and analysis of what went wrong in this case and why; and also  
38 requests her to bring recommendations and/or suggestions to the 2023 session on how to better ensure the  
39 integrity of the conference journal.

40  
41 Submitted by Gyuchang Sim  
42



# LEADERSHIP ACADEMY

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# 1 Rules of Order

2  
3 Paragraph (¶) references are to the 2016 Book of Discipline as corrected by Errata notations issued by the  
4 General Conference. Portions in “quotation marks” are Disciplinary wording.

## 5 GENERAL

6 These Rules (hereafter called the "Rules") shall be standing rules for the governance of the Greater New  
7 Jersey Annual Conference. At all times, the Rules shall be subject to the provisions of the applicable  
8 provisions of the Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church (hereafter called the "Discipline". Unless  
9 otherwise indicated, all paragraph references below shall refer to the paragraph numbers and letters  
10 indicating provisions of the Discipline). Except as they may be inconsistent with applicable provisions of the  
11 Discipline, the Rules shall remain applicable unless and until modified or suspended as set forth below.

## 12 I MEMBERSHIP

- 13  
14 1) **Composition** – “The annual conference shall be composed of clergy and lay members. The clergy  
15 membership shall consist of deacons and elders in full connection, provisional members, associate  
16 members, and local pastors under appointment. The lay membership shall consist of professing lay  
17 members elected by each charge, the diaconal ministers, the active deaconesses, and home  
18 missionaries under episcopal appointment within the bounds of the annual conference, the  
19 conference president of United Methodist Women, the conference president of United Methodist  
20 Men, the conference lay leader, district lay leaders, the conference director of Lay Speaking  
21 Ministries, conference secretary of Global Ministries (if lay), the president or equivalent officer of the  
22 conference young adult organization, the president of the conference youth organization, the chair  
23 of the annual conference college student organization and one young person between the ages of  
24 twelve and seventeen and one young person between the ages of eighteen and thirty from each  
25 district. Each charge served by more than one clergy shall be entitled to as many lay members as  
26 there are clergy members.” (¶ 32) Each church shall elect a lay member and an alternate lay member  
27 as outlined in Rule 3a. Additional lay members, as provided in Rule 6, shall be members under the lay  
28 equalization formula.
- 29 2) **Clergy Membership** – “The clergy membership of an annual conference (¶ 370) shall consist of  
30 deacons and elders in full connection (¶ 333), provisional members, associate members (¶ 327),  
31 affiliate members (¶¶ 344.4, 586.4), and local pastors under full-time and part-time appointment to  
32 a pastoral charge (¶ 317). (See also ¶ 32).” (¶ 602.1)
- 33 a) “Clergy members in full connection shall have the right to vote in the annual conference on all  
34 matters except in the election of lay delegates to the general and jurisdictional or central  
35 conferences and shall have sole responsibility for all matters of ordination, character, and  
36 conference relations of clergy.” (¶ 602.1a)
- 37 b) "Provisional clergy members shall have the right to vote in the annual conference on all matters  
38 except constitutional amendments, election of clergy delegates to the General and jurisdictional  
39 or central conferences, and matters of ordination, character, and conference relations of clergy.  
40 (¶602.b) Provisional clergy members who have completed all of their educational requirements  
41 may vote to elect clergy delegates to General and jurisdictional or central conferences. (See  
42 Judicial Council Decision #1181 and ¶ 35, Article IV)."

- c) Associate clergy members shall have the right to vote in the annual conference on all matters except 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. (§ 602.c) 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. (See Judicial Council Decision #1181 and § 35, Article IV).
- d) Full-time and part-time local pastors under appointment to a pastoral charge shall have the right to vote in the annual conference on all matters except constitutional amendments; election of 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. (§ 602.d). 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 clergy delegates to General and jurisdictional or central conferences. (See Judicial Council Decision #1181 and § 35, Article IV).

**3) Election and Qualifications of Lay Members**

- a) Lay members and one or more alternate lay members for each church shall be elected quadrennially at the regular meeting of the charge conference following the meeting of the general conference. “Both the lay members and the alternates shall have been professing members in good standing of The United Methodist Church for at least two years and shall have been active participants for at least four years next preceding their election (see § 32), except in a newly organized church, which shall have the privilege of representation at the annual conference session.” (§ 251.2) There shall be no restriction as to the number of terms for which a qualified person may be elected a lay member or alternate lay member.
- b) District youth and young adult representatives may be elected annually by the Ministries with Young People Team (or its successor, however named).

**4) Seating of Lay Members** – Lay members and alternate lay members shall take office as of January 1 following their election, and the term of office shall be for the ensuing quadrennium. If the regular meeting of a Charge Conference is delayed beyond the year of the meeting of the General Conference, the lay member and alternate lay members shall take office immediately upon election. If the office of lay member or alternate lay member of any church becomes vacant during the quadrennium, a replacement for the unexpired term shall be elected at the next regular meeting of the Charge Conference or at a special meeting thereof. Each District Superintendent shall provide the Conference Secretary with a correct list of lay members from charges within the district by January 15 prior to the first meeting of the Annual Conference in the quadrennium. It shall be to the lay members so listed that credentials shall be issued for seating at sessions of the Annual Conference.

**5) Lay Representation of a Local Church** – If the church’s lay representative to the Annual Conference “shall cease to be a member of the charge or shall for any reason fail to serve, an alternate lay member in the order of election shall serve in place.” (§ 251.2) If there is no alternate lay member who can attend, another lay member or alternate lay member may be elected by the Charge Conference.

- 1 a) The pastor may request the District Superintendent to authorize a special session of the Charge  
2 Conference for the purpose of electing a lay member or alternate lay member. A special session  
3 of the Charge Conference requires the written consent of the District Superintendent in his/her  
4 absence, and at least ten days advance notice to its members. (§ 250)
- 5 b) The pastor shall report to the District Superintendent and the Conference Secretary, in writing,  
6 the name and address of the elected lay member or alternate lay member.
- 7 c) Under no circumstances shall a person who is not duly elected as stated above be seated at  
8 sessions of the Annual Conference.
- 9 6) **Equalization of Lay Members** – “If the lay membership should number less than the clergy members  
10 of the annual conference, the annual conference shall, by its own formula, provide for the election  
11 of additional lay members to equalize the number of lay and clergy membership of the Annual  
12 Conference.” (§ 32) Members will be added in the order nominated or recommended for selection  
13 until the required number of additional lay members is reached. All terms will be for the  
14 quadrennium with the exception of category “i” below which shall be annually.
- 15 a) The following persons shall be named as additional Lay Members to Annual Conference:
- 16 i. The Conference Secretary, Conference Treasurer, and Conference Statistician, when persons  
17 elected to these offices are lay persons who meet the disciplinary requirements for  
18 Conference membership and are not otherwise elected.
- 19 ii. Elected Lay Delegates to General and Jurisdictional Conferences not otherwise elected as Lay  
20 Members of the Annual Conference.
- 21 iii. Lay Chairpersons of the following agencies not otherwise elected as Lay Members of the  
22 Annual Conference: Council on Finance and Administration, Commission on Archives and  
23 History, Commission on Equitable Compensation, Committee on the Episcopacy, Board of  
24 Pensions, Board of Trustees, Board of Church and Society, Board of Discipleship, Board of  
25 Global Ministries, Board of Higher Education and Campus Ministry, Commission on Camps  
26 and Conferences, Commission on Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns, Commission  
27 on Religion and Race, Commission on the Status and Role of Women, Commission on  
28 Communications, and Commission on the Ethnic Local Church.
- 29 iv. The past conference Lay Leaders not otherwise elected as Lay Members of the Annual  
30 Conference. This includes the former Northern New Jersey and Southern New Jersey  
31 Conferences as well as the Greater New Jersey Annual Conference.
- 32 v. Laity members of the Council on Finance and Administration not otherwise elected as Lay  
33 Members of the Annual Conference.
- 34 vi. Laity members of the Sessions Committee not otherwise elected as Lay Members of the  
35 Annual Conference.
- 36 vii. The District Presidents of United Methodist Women and District Presidents of United  
37 Methodist Men not otherwise elected as Lay Members of the Annual Conference.
- 38 viii. Lay Missionaries not otherwise elected as Lay Members of the Annual Conference.
- 39 ix. The District Directors of Lay Speaking Ministries not otherwise elected as Lay Members of  
40 the Annual Conference.
- 41 x. The co-secretaries of the Ministries with Young People Team, the Youth Service Fund  
42 Chairperson and one additional Youth and Young Adult from each District not otherwise  
43 elected as Lay Members of the Annual Conference.
- 44 b) Nominations for additional Lay members from local churches: In the year preceding the  
45 beginning of the quadrennium, the Laity Council shall solicit nominations for additional Lay

1 Members from local churches through Administrative Boards or Councils. The Laity Council will  
2 receive the nominations and elect those who will serve as additional Lay Members for the  
3 succeeding quadrennium. Vacancies that occur during the quadrennium shall be filled by the  
4 action of the Laity Council.

5 **7) Lay Membership** – “The lay members of the annual conference shall participate in all deliberations  
6 and vote upon all measures except on the granting or validation of license, ordination, reception into  
7 full conference membership, or any question concerning the character and official conduct of  
8 ordained ministers, except those who are lay members of the Board of Ordained Ministry and the  
9 committee on investigation.” (§ 602.6)

10 **8) Seated Without Vote** – The following shall be seated without vote in the Annual Conference and  
11 shall be given the privilege of the floor without vote: student local pastors, lay missionaries regularly  
12 appointed by the Board of Global Ministries in fields outside the United States, and the Conference  
13 Chancellor(s) “if not otherwise a voting member of the annual conference” (§602.10) The following  
14 shall be invited to attend the Annual Conference, without voice or vote, on the same financial basis  
15 as members of the Annual Conference: spouses of deceased clergy members, persons not officially  
16 eligible for appointment who have been assigned by the District Superintendents between sessions  
17 of Annual Conference as pastors in charge with the intention of appointment or reassignment for the  
18 ensuing conference year, and persons to be presented for consecration as Diaconal Ministers or  
19 ordained as Deacons or Elders. Staff and clerical personnel necessary for the conducting of the  
20 Annual Conference Session shall attend at conference expense.

21 **9) Attendance of Members** – “It is the duty of every member and all provisional members and local  
22 pastors of the annual conference to attend its sessions and furnish such reports in such form as the  
23 Discipline may require. Any such person unable to attend shall report by letter to the conference  
24 secretary, setting forth the reason for the absence. Should any ordained minister in active service be  
25 absent from the session of the annual conference without a satisfactory reason for the absence, the  
26 matter shall be referred by the conference secretary to the Board of Ordained Ministry.” (§ 602.8)

## 27 28 II ORGANIZATION

29 **10) Presiding Officer** – The bishop assigned shall preside over the annual conference, or “in case of  
30 inability, shall arrange for another bishop to preside. In the absence of a bishop, the conference shall  
31 by ballot, without nomination or debate, elect a president pro-tempore from among the traveling  
32 elders. The president thus elected shall discharge all the duties of a bishop except ordination.” (§  
33 603.6)

34 a) The Presiding Officer shall see that all business pertaining to the Conference shall be brought  
35 forward and conducted in a proper manner, according to the provisions of the Discipline and  
36 Rules for the Conference.

37 b) The Presiding Officer shall decide all questions of order, subject to the right of appeal by any  
38 member of the Conference.

39 c) The Presiding Officer shall appoint all committees and officers not otherwise designated to the  
40 Nominating Committee, unless otherwise directed by the Conference.

41 d) The Presiding Officer shall appoint an elder to preside at the Conference during any temporary  
42 absence.

43 **11) Conference Secretary** – At the session following the General Conference, the Annual Conference  
44 shall elect a Secretary to serve for the succeeding quadrennium. The Nominating Committee, in  
45 consultation with the Bishop and Cabinet, shall present the nomination. Term of office shall not

1 exceed two consecutive quadrennia. "In the case of a vacancy in the interim of the sessions, the  
2 bishop, after consultation with the district superintendents, shall appoint a person to act until the  
3 next session of the annual conference." (§ 603.7) Term limits of Rule 58a. shall apply.

4 a) The Secretary shall keep a correct record of the proceedings of the Conference, authenticating  
5 by signature all acts of the Conference.

6 b) The Secretary shall handle all notification and communications directed by the Conference.

7 c) Unless otherwise directed, the Secretary shall handle all other matters that normally come under  
8 the Secretary's responsibility.

9 d) The Secretary shall have the responsibility for editing, publishing and distributing the Journal,  
10 Yearbook and Minutes of the Annual Conference.

11 e) The Secretary shall nominate any staff that require election by the Conference.

12 **12) Conference Statistician** – At the first session following the General Conference, the Annual  
13 Conference shall elect a Statistician to serve for the succeeding quadrennium. "In the case of a  
14 vacancy in the interim of the sessions, the bishop, after consultation with the district  
15 superintendents, shall appoint a person to act until the next session of the annual conference." (§  
16 603.7)

17 **13) Conference Treasurer** – The "annual conference, on nomination of its council on finance and  
18 administration, shall at the first session of the conference after the quadrennial session of the  
19 general conference or jurisdictional conference, or at such other times as a vacancy exists, elect a  
20 conference treasurer/director of administrative services. If a vacancy shall occur during the  
21 quadrennium, the council shall fill the vacancy until the next session of the annual conference." (§  
22 619)

23 **14) Conference Chancellors** – The Annual Conference may designate as Chancellor one or more  
24 laypersons, each of whom is a member in good standing of one of the local churches or a  
25 clergyperson who is a member of the Annual Conference in the Episcopal Area, and who is a  
26 member of the appropriate bar or bars in the Episcopal Area. Each chancellor, who shall be  
27 nominated by the bishop and elected by the Annual Conference, shall serve as legal advisor to the  
28 Bishop and the Annual Conference. (§ 603.8)

29 **15) Conference Parliamentarian** – There shall be a Parliamentarian at each Plenary Session of the  
30 Annual Conference. The bishop shall select the Parliamentarian(s).

31 **16) Rules of Order Committee** –

32 a) There shall be a standing Rules of Order Committee of eight (8) members, four (4) clergy and  
33 four (4) lay, nominated by the Committee on Nominations. The Conference Parliamentarian, if  
34 not already a member, shall be an ex-officio member of this committee with vote.

35 b) Prior to the consideration of any other business of an Annual Conference Session, the Rules of  
36 Order Committee shall present, for informational purposes only, any changes to the Rules  
37 mandated by changes in the Discipline.

38 c) The Rules of Order Committee shall also present for adoption by the Conference any other  
39 changes to the Rules that the Committee recommends. If any member of the Annual Conference  
40 desires to propose any other change to the Rules, the member shall submit a resolution setting  
41 forth the proposed change in accordance with the deadline for submitting proposed legislation.  
42 See Rule 19b. Upon its submission, the proposed legislation shall be referred to the Rules  
43 Committee for its review and response, prior to any vote on the legislation by the Conference.  
44

1 **III BUSINESS PROCEDURES**

2  
3 **17) Roll Call** – The Conference Secretary shall take the roll of all members of this Annual Conference,  
4 both clergy and lay, by card registration while the Conference is in session, and the attendance shall  
5 be recorded in the Journal. Upon registration, members shall receive a name badge which shall state  
6 name, church or position, and which shall also indicate voting rights.

7 **18) The Bar of the Conference** – The bar of the Conference shall be fixed at the beginning of each  
8 Annual Conference on motion of the Secretary. All members of the Conference, lay and clergy, must  
9 be within the bar of the Conference to have the privilege of the floor and to vote. Other persons  
10 shall be seated outside the bar of the Conference as indicated by the ushers.

11 **19) Pre-Conference Reports and Recommendations –**

12 a) Reports –

- 13 i. There shall be a Pre-Conference Workbook which shall contain all reports of Conference,  
14 Jurisdictional and General agencies, boards, commissions, committees, councils, or teams  
15 received at the Conference offices by the first business day of March (or such other deadline  
16 as the Conference Secretary may establish). Such reports are to identify how the agency or  
17 other body has helped the Conference make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation  
18 of the world, how the agency has furthered the goals of the Conference, and the goals of the  
19 agency or other body for the coming year. Any such report may be included in the Journal of  
20 the Annual Conference, subject to editorial corrections, at the discretion of the Conference  
21 Secretary. Any recommendations from such an agency or other body must be submitted  
22 separately as legislation for consideration by the Annual Conference, in accordance with  
23 applicable procedures and deadlines for legislation.
- 24 ii. Except as provided in (b) below, no reports or recommendations of any Conference agency  
25 excepting the Board of Ordained Ministry and the Committee on Nominations, and then only  
26 with the consent of the bishop, shall be acted upon unless (1) they shall have been correctly  
27 and timely submitted to be included in the Pre-Conference Workbook as reports or  
28 legislation (as indicated above).

29 b) Recommendations –

- 30 i. The Pre-Conference Workbook shall contain all proposed legislation and all reports of  
31 agencies, boards, commissions, committees, councils, or teams that have been received by  
32 the Annual Conference offices by the first business day in March (or such other deadline as  
33 the Conference Secretary may establish).
- 34 ii. All proposed legislation and reports received after March 1 shall be submitted to the agenda  
35 committee for review. Upon the agenda committee's recommendation and the bishop's  
36 consent, such items may be included in the agenda where urgent and appropriate.
- 37 iii. All recommendations submitted to the Conference Secretary in a timely manner shall be  
38 submitted to the CF&A by the Conference Secretary or his/her designee in time for the  
39 CF&A to present its findings to the annual conference in the Pre-Conference journal. If  
40 CF&A determines that adoption of the recommendation would have a financial impact,  
41 CF&A shall report its understanding of such impact.

42 **20) Program** – The program as contained in the Pre-Conference Workbook shall be the official program  
43 of the session of the Annual Conference, subject to necessary modifications by the Chairperson of  
44 the Session Agenda Subcommittee.

45 **21) Official Journal** – The Conference Journal, signed by the Presiding Officer and the Secretary, shall be  
46 the official Journal of the conference. Among other materials included by the Conference Secretary,

1 the Conference Journal shall contain all legislation and recommendations agreed to by the Annual  
2 Conference.

3 **22) Copy for the Journal** – All materials for publication in the Conference Journal shall be in the hands of  
4 the Editor of the Journal (who shall be the Conference Secretary, or a person selected by the  
5 Conference Secretary) by the close of the Conference Session. Exceptions to this rule shall be at the  
6 discretion of the Editor.

7 a) All substantive actions of the Conference shall be indicated in the Conference Journal. The Editor  
8 of the Journal shall have authority to make all appropriate, non-substantive editorial and  
9 conforming changes and corrections. Where explicitly so authorized by the Conference, the  
10 Editor of the Journal and the author of the action shall also be empowered to edit the contents  
11 of a given action together, to reflect the intent of the Conference. Rationales, preambles or  
12 supporting statements shall not be printed except in the case of complimentary resolutions.

13 b) Memoirs shall be limited to five hundred (500) words.

14 c) Addresses delivered to the Conference Session shall not be included in the Conference Journal,  
15 except for those of the Bishop, the District Superintendents and Conference Lay Leader(s). A  
16 motion to so include shall be out of order unless prior permission to make the motion shall have  
17 been received in writing by a committee composed of the Secretary of the Conference, the  
18 Editor of the Journal, the Chair of the Council on Finance and Administration, the Chair of the  
19 Conference Sessions Committee, and the Dean of the Conference Cabinet.

20 **23) Distribution** – The Journal shall be distributed according to the following formula:

21 a) One mailed paper copy for each surviving spouse of clergy or laity member in the year the  
22 Memorial is printed in the Journal at no cost.

23 b) One paper copy to each conference officers, agency chairpersons, and general and jurisdictional  
24 agencies as required by the Discipline.

25 c) One mailed paper copy upon request to retired clergy.

26 d) A hard copy printed journal will be produced and available to all members upon request. A  
27 minimum fee for production and mailing costs will be assessed to each hard copy journal  
28 request. The amount to be paid for the journal will be published in advance.

29 e) An online version of the journal will be available on [www.gnjumc.org](http://www.gnjumc.org) and available for download  
30 and review.

31 f) All Annual Conference reports will be made available on the conference website.

32 g) The Conference Journal will not be produced in CD format.

33 **24) Copyright** – In order to protect its directories and contents from unauthorized use, the Conference  
34 Secretary shall copyright the Journal on behalf of the Annual Conference.

35 **25) Mail Ballot** - In an emergency situation as declared by the Council on Finance and Administration, a  
36 mail ballot may be taken of the Annual Conference. All members of the Annual Conference  
37 immediately preceding the emergency will receive ballots. The vote will be confidential with the  
38 outside envelope requiring the signature of the member.

39 **26) Remote Participation Annual Conference** - In a situation which a state of emergency has been  
40 declared by the Governor of New Jersey or other applicable governmental authority, or in  
41 extraordinary circumstances as declared by the Bishop, Cabinet, Conference Trustees and CFA, the  
42 regular Annual Conference session, or a Special Annual Conference session, or parts of either, can be  
43 held by means of remote participation. Notice of such a session and all such means of remote  
44 participation shall meet all requirements of the Discipline, applicable state law, and the Rules of  
45 Order, including without limitation:

- 1 a) authorization and prior notice of the meeting and means of participation.
- 2 b) verification of membership and voting credentials.
- 3 c) reasonable opportunity to concurrently see, read or hear, participate and vote; and
- 4 d) record and maintain a record of any votes or other actions.

5  
6 **IV PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURES**

7  
8 **27) Order of Precedence of Motions –**

- 9 a) Not debatable
- 10 Privileged
- 11 Fix time at which to adjourn (when compared to other privileged) \*#
- 12 Adjourn (when compared to other privileged)
- 13 Take a recess (when compared to other privileged) \*#
- 14 Raise a question of privilege
- 15 Call for the orders of the day
- 16 Subsidiary
- 17 Lay on the table (2/3)
- 18 Previous question (2/3)
- 19 Limit or extend time of debate (2/3)

20 \* *Can be amended; the others cannot be amended. (from Robert's Rules of Order)*

21 # *Is privileged only when other business is before the Conference. (From RRO)*

- 22 b) Debatable
- 23 Postpone to a certain time
- 24 Commit or refer
- 25 Amend
- 26 Postpone indefinitely
- 27 Main motions

28 **28) Main Motion** – A main motion is a proposal that the Conference take certain action, or that it  
29 express itself as holding certain views. Any member may make a motion.

30 **29) Motions Which Are Not Debatable** – The following motions shall be acted upon without debate:

- 31 a) To adjourn, when unqualified, except to adjourn the conference.
- 32 b) To suspend the rules. (2/3 vote)
- 33 c) To take from the table.
- 34 d) To call for the previous question. (2/3 vote)
- 35 e) To reconsider a non-debatable motion
- 36 f) To limit or extend the limits of debate. (2/3 vote)
- 37 g) To call for the order of the day.

38 **30) Precedence of Secondary Motions** – If any one or more of the following motions are pending, the  
39 order of precedence in relation to one another shall be the same as the order of their listing  
40 below:

- 41 a) To fix the time at which the Conference shall adjourn. (This motion is subject to amendment, or  
42 it may be laid on the table.)
- 43 b) To adjourn.
- 44 c) To take a recess.
- 45 d) To order the previous question.
- 46 e) To lay on the table.
- 47 f) To limit or extend the limits of debate.

- 1 g) To postpone to a certain time.  
2 h) To commit or refer.  
3 i) To amend or substitute.  
4 j) To postpone indefinitely.
- 5 **31) When a Second is not required** – The following do not require a second, pursuant to latest  
6 edition of Roberts Rules of Order.
- 7 a) To raise a question of privilege.  
8 b) Question of order.  
9 c) Objection to the consideration of a question.  
10 d) Call for the order of the day.  
11 e) Call for the division of the question.  
12 f) Call for the division of the Conference (for voting).  
13 g) Call for the motion to reconsider.  
14 h) Filling blanks.  
15 i) Nominations.  
16 j) Leave to withdraw a motion.  
17 k) Inquiries of any kind.  
18 l) Presentation of a report or recommendation by a Conference agency.
- 19 **32) Division of Question** – Before a vote is taken, any member has the right to call for the division of  
20 the question as the member indicates, if it is subject to division. If no member objects, the  
21 division shall be made; but if there is objection, the Chair, not waiting for a second, shall put the  
22 division to a vote.
- 23 **33) Tabling Related Motions** – No motion that adheres to another motion or has another motion  
24 adhering to it can be laid on the table by itself. If they are laid on the table, such motions carry  
25 with them the motions to which they respectively adhere, or which adhere to them.
- 26 **34) Motions After Speaking on a Pending Question**
- 27 a) A member may make a motion after a speech, although strict parliamentary practice requires  
28 motion to be made and seconded before a speech is made so the Conference may determine if  
29 it wishes to hear the matter.  
30 b) No member who has spoken on a pending question shall at the close of the speech have the  
31 right to call for the previous question, to move for indefinite postponement, or to lay the  
32 motion on the table.
- 33 **35) Previous Question** – To move the previous question is to move that the vote now be taken on the  
34 motion or motions pending.
- 35 a) When moving a previous question, a member shall indicate to what such action applies if any  
36 secondary motion or motions are pending. If the member does not so indicate, the chair may  
37 regard it as applying only to the immediate pending question. This vote shall be taken without  
38 debate and if, in the judgment of the chair, two thirds (2/3) of those present vote for its  
39 adoption, the vote shall be taken on the motion or motion to which it applies.  
40 b) It shall not be in order to move the previous question in cases involving character or Conference  
41 relations, or where the Rules otherwise expressly limit when it is in order to move the previous  
42 question.

43

1 **36) Reconsideration of a Question** – A motion to reconsider an action of the Conference shall be in  
2 order at any time during the prevailing session if offered by a member who voted with the  
3 majority. If the motion it is proposed to reconsider is not debatable, the motion to reconsider  
4 may not be debated.

5 **37) Suspension of Rules** – The application of any of the provisions of these Rules of Order may be  
6 suspended at any time by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Conference.

7 **38) Motions and Resolutions are to be Written** –

8 a) All motions, resolutions and reports shall be submitted in writing to the Secretary, properly  
9 signed by the movers thereof.

10 b) Motions made on the floor shall be written on forms provided by the Secretary.

11 **39) When a Motion is in Possession of the Conference** – When a motion is made and seconded, or a  
12 resolution introduced and seconded, or a report presented and/or read before the Conference or  
13 stated by the Chair it shall be deemed in possession of the Conference. But any motion may be  
14 withdrawn or altered by the mover with the consent of the Conference at any time before voting  
15 has commenced.

16 **40) Amendments and Substitutions** –

17 a) Only one amendment to an amendment shall be in order.

18 b) It is in order to move a substitute for the main motion. In such case, the Chair shall proceed to  
19 perfect the original motion. When the main motion has been perfected, the Chair shall state  
20 the question on the substitute. If the substitute is adopted, it shall replace the original main  
21 motion and become the main motion. The Chair will then state the question on the (new) main  
22 motion. The new main motion can be amended only by addition. If the substitute does not  
23 carry, the Chair shall state the question on the original main motion as it has been perfected.

24 **41) Order of Amendments** – When a main motion, report or resolution is under consideration, only  
25 one amendment and one amendment to that amendment are permissible. While there can be  
26 only one amendment of each degree pending at the same time, any number of amendments can  
27 be offered in succession. A substitute and one amendment to the substitute may be offered while  
28 amendments of the first and second degree are pending. The permissive order then is: 1) main  
29 motion, 2) amendment, 3) amendment to the amendment, 4) substitute, and 5) amendment to  
30 the substitute. The voting in this order is 3, 2, 5, 4, 1. If the substitute becomes the main motion,  
31 it shall be treated as such.

32 **42) Appeal** – An appeal from the decision of the Chair shall be taken without debate, provided that  
33 after the Chair shall have stated the reason for the decision, the appellant may give the grounds  
34 for the appeal. (§ 51)

35 **43) The Question of Consideration** – The question of consideration may be raised by any member  
36 upon the presentation of any matter that shall be deemed irrelevant, unprofitable, or  
37 contentious, and shall be decided without debate by majority vote. This applies only to the main  
38 motion.

39 **44) Method of Voting** – Voting shall be by voice vote and/or show of hands, or by standing count  
40 (provided that in such a count those who cannot stand may vote by raising hands), or by ballot, at  
41 the discretion of the Presiding Officer, unless otherwise ordered by the Conference. It shall be in  
42 order for any member to call for a vote by count on any question before the Conference, and, if  
43 the call be sustained by one-third (1/3) of the members present and voting, a vote shall be taken  
44 as called for.

1           **45) Robert's Rules of Order, Supplemental Authority** – In any parliamentary situation not covered in  
2           these Rules of Order, the Conference shall be governed in its action by the appropriate provisions  
3           of the latest revision of Robert's Rules of Order.  
4

5   **V SPEAKING ON THE FLOOR**  
6

7           **46) Securing the Floor** – Before speaking in debate or delivering any matter to the Conference, a  
8           member shall approach and wait at a microphone provided for addressing the Conference from  
9           the floor or shall raise a card provided for the purpose of gaining recognition. When the member  
10          has been recognized by the bishop, the member shall proceed to speak at a designated  
11          microphone. Before addressing the purpose of speaking, members shall state their names and  
12          local church or affiliation.

13          **47) Limitations on Debate** –

- 14           a) The chairperson of the agency that originated the report or recommendation(s) shall  
15           present them as the main motion before the plenary session and shall have five (5)  
16           minutes for comment, except as provided under h) below.
- 17           b) If there is a (are) minority report(s) or recommendation(s) from members of the agency,  
18           a representative shall be allowed five (5) minutes for a presentation.
- 19           c) All debate on the floor of the Conference shall follow the principle of alternate debate,  
20           that is, a speaker for, then a speaker against. When no speaker on the side opposed to  
21           the last speaker is ready, the President may recognize one who desires to speak on the  
22           same side as the prior speaker.
- 23           d) No person shall speak more than once on the same question without permission of the  
24           Conference, except as provided under g) below.
- 25           e) No person shall speak more than three (3) minutes at one time without permission of  
26           the Conference, except as provided under a) or h).
- 27           f) The initiator of the main motion shall in all cases be entitled to three (3) minutes to  
28           either
- 29           i.   oppose the motion to lay the report or recommendation(s) on the table.  
30           ii. close the debate before the report or recommendation is voted upon.
- 31           g) An agency presenting Special Reports at the direction of the Conference shall have  
32           sufficient time as determined by the Sessions Committee to present such reports and  
33           recommendations.
- 34           h) Except for non-debatable motions, no report or motion shall be put to the question  
35           without the opportunity having been given for at least two (2) speeches for and two (2)  
36           speeches against the pending question. After two (2) speeches pro and two (2) speeches  
37           con and provided no secondary (subsidiary, privileged--other than "previous question"--  
38           or incidental) motions come to the floor and no other member seeks the floor to speak  
39           on the pending question, the question shall automatically be put to the question.
- 40           i) The motion for the previous question shall not be in order on the pending question until  
41           opportunity has been given for at least two (2) members to speak on each side of the  
42           pending question. If, after reasonable opportunity has been offered by the chair, no  
43           member has requested to speak against a resolution, motion or amendment, any  
44           member may move the previous question, to close debate. Likewise, if one member has  
45           spoken against a resolution, motion or amendment, but, after reasonable opportunity

1 has been offered by the chair, no second member has requested to speak against the  
2 measure, any member may move the previous question, to close debate.

3 **48) Representation of Committees** – When the chairperson of a Conference agency is not in  
4 harmony with a report or recommendation adopted by the agency, it shall be the  
5 chairperson’s duty to state the fact to the agency. The agency may then elect one of its  
6 members to represent it in the presentation of the report or recommendation in  
7 Conference. If the committee fails to elect such a representative, the chairperson may  
8 designate a member to represent the committee.

9 **49) To Limit or Extend Debate** – To move to limit or extend the limits of debate is in order at any  
10 time, except when a member has the floor, except as otherwise specifically provided  
11 elsewhere in the Rules.

12 **50) Interrupting the Speaker** – No one shall interrupt a member who has the floor except for a  
13 breach of order, a misrepresentation, a departure from the question, to direct the attention  
14 of the Conference that the time has arrived for a special order of the day, or to raise a very  
15 urgent question of high privilege.

16 **51) Questions of Privilege** – All requests from the floor to be recognized for matters of privilege  
17 must be made in writing to the Conference Secretary. They shall state the reason for the  
18 request to address the conference and the purpose of the request. The requests will be  
19 reviewed by a committee composed of the Conference Lay Leader, Conference Secretary,  
20 and the Chair of Conference Sessions. The committee shall recommend to the Presiding  
21 Bishop whether or not to recognize the requestor for the purpose of presenting the matter  
22 of privilege. The Presiding Bishop shall have sole authority in receiving and acting upon the  
23 recommendation of the committee.

24 **52) Announcements, Courtesy Presentations and Distribution of Papers** –

- 25 a) Announcements of matters of information to the Conference shall be submitted on the  
26 Announcement Authorization Form to the Conference Secretary before the conclusion  
27 of the plenary session prior to the plenary session when the announcement will be made  
28 unless it is an emergency matter which may be submitted as soon as possible after the  
29 matter is known.
- 30 b) Requests to make Courtesy Presentation speeches during a plenary session by a person  
31 not a member of Annual Conference or by a member are subject to the discretion of the  
32 bishop. As a general rule, no presentations or speeches will be made to the Conference  
33 outside the agenda.
- 34 c) Papers or other materials may not be distributed to the members during the Conference  
35 sessions, except with express prior permission by the bishop.

36 **53) Privilege of the Floor for Lay Members of Conference Agencies** – Laypersons not members  
37 of the Conference but currently serving on Conference agencies shall have the privilege of  
38 the floor without vote.

39 **54) Lay Officers of a Conference Agency** – Any Lay Officer of any Conference agency, who is not  
40 a lay member of the Conference, shall have the privilege to move and defend the report of  
41 the group such Lay Officer represents, without vote.

42

1           **VI NOMINATIONS**  
2

3           **55) The Committee on Nominations and its Ministry** – The Committee on Nominations will  
4 consist of the District Lay Leaders, the Conference Lay Leader, the Director of Connectional  
5 Ministries, and the District Superintendents. The Committee shall nominate the appropriate  
6 number of people each year to the Annual Conference Session for election.

- 7           a) The Committee on Nominations will develop and use a system to identify nominees  
8 based on their gifts, experience, and skills that will help the Conference achieve its  
9 vision, mission, and goals as adopted by the Annual Conference, particularly leadership  
10 evidenced in making and maturing disciples, growing vital congregations and  
11 transforming lives and communities. Additionally, the Committee shall ensure the  
12 nominations reflect the diversity of the Conference.
- 13           b) Agency members shall be elected and placed into four staggered classes and each class  
14 will serve for a term of two years. An agency member may serve for four terms for a  
15 maximum of eight years. Nominations and elections will follow the rotation schedule  
16 unless otherwise mandated by the Book of Discipline.
- 17           c) In order to aid the Committee on Nominations in its work, it is requested that any  
18 member of the Conference who has a personal preference to serve on any particular  
19 agency communicate such personal preference to the chairperson of the Committee on  
20 Nominations on the appropriate form prior to January 1.
- 21           d) Nothing herein shall exclude additional nominations from the floor of the Conference.  
22 All nominations from the floor must be submitted on forms supplied in the pre-  
23 conference mailing or secured from the Chairperson of Nominations prior to placing the  
24 name in nomination. The signatures of the nominator and nominee must be on the  
25 form, or it will be declared invalid.

26           **56) Chairpersons and Officers** –

- 27           a) For the sake of empowering diverse leadership, the Committee on Nominations shall  
28 nominate, and the Annual Conference elect, all chairpersons and officers for agencies,  
29 boards, commissions, committees, councils, and teams except where the Book of  
30 Discipline instructs differently. All terms shall be for the quadrennial, or such other  
31 period as specified by the action of the Conference.
- 32           b) The Committee on Nominations shall nominate all chairpersons and officers for  
33 agencies, boards, commissions, committees, council and teams [hereinafter  
34 Agency/Agencies] that the Book of Discipline requires to select its own chair and officers.  
35 These nominations shall not come before Annual Conference but shall be presented  
36 directly to the respective Agencies for vote at their first meeting after Annual  
37 Conference. In the absence of a duly elected Chair, whose term has not yet expired, the  
38 District Superintendent assigned to the agency either permanently, or for the election  
39 process, shall chair the meeting until the new chair is elected.<sup>1</sup>
- 40           c) In all nominations, special attention shall be given to seeking diversity of inclusion by  
41 gender, age, racial and ethnic background, and to inclusion of people with disabilities  
42 and from all size churches. (See Discipline paragraph 610.5)

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<sup>1</sup> See Judicial Council decision 1328

1 **57) To Fill Vacancies –**

- 2 a) The Committee on Nominations is to recommend to the Connectional Table Executive  
3 Committee any persons to fulfill an unexpired term of any agency vacancy between  
4 Annual Conference Sessions except where the Discipline instructs differently.  
5 b) Preference will be given to members of the Annual Conference to serve on conference  
6 agencies when they have the skills, experience and qualities being sought for an agency.  
7 c) The Connectional Table Executive Committee shall approve the appointments or request  
8 additional nominations, in which case the Committee on Nominations is to submit new  
9 nominations. These individuals serve until they or someone else is elected at the next  
10 Annual Conference Session.  
11 d) When a person duly nominated and elected to any Conference agency does not attend  
12 three (3) consecutive meetings of the agency, it shall be the responsibility of the  
13 chairperson to attempt to contact that person by mail or telephone with a view to  
14 activation or resignation. The chairpersons shall report in writing annually to the  
15 Chairperson of the Committee on Nominations regarding contact with all non-  
16 participants and the results of such contacts. This information shall be provided by  
17 January 31 of each year.

18 **58) Elections –**

- 19 a) The report of the Committee on Nominations shall be distributed in the Pre-Conference  
20 mailing and/or the packet received at the seat of the Annual Conference. The report  
21 shall be presented without reading. Upon adoption of a motion to close nominations,  
22 the Chairperson of the Committee on Nominations shall move the election of all  
23 nominees whose elections are uncontested.  
24 b) When the number of persons nominated exceeds the vacancies on an agency or when  
25 more than one person is nominated for a specific office, there shall be a secret ballot  
26 listing only those persons where a contest exists. The ballot will be taken at a time  
27 subsequent to the election in a) above. The ballot shall be distributed, collected and  
28 tallied by tellers selected by the Conference Secretary, who shall report the results listing  
29 only those elected. Election shall be by a majority of those voting. Lacking a majority,  
30 there shall be another ballot listing only those receiving 25% or more of the votes.

31 **59) Quadrennial Agencies -**

- 32 a) An elected member of a conference or district committee, board or agency shall be  
33 eligible for not more than two consecutive four year terms unless specified otherwise in  
34 the Book of Discipline. Service of two years or more in filling an unexpired or vacated  
35 position shall be counted as a full four-year term. For this purpose, annual conference to  
36 annual conference shall be considered one year, regardless of the actual dates of the  
37 conferences.  
38 b) Persons elected by the Annual Conference to serve in an affiliated organization\* may  
39 serve in accord with the by-laws of the organization in which they are elected to serve,  
40 except that no term of office may exceed five years. All persons elected or reelected to  
41 serve in an affiliated organization shall be elected in accord with the Annual Conference  
42 rules on nomination and election.

43 \*An affiliated organization is one that wishes to maintain a connectional relationship with  
44 the United Methodist Church through the Greater New Jersey Annual Conference.

1 c) Members of the Annual Conference who are voting members of a general agency shall  
2 serve as ex-officio (with vote) members of the corresponding annual conference agency  
3 or its equivalent structure (§§610.6, 710.4 and 710.6).

4 **60) Quorum** – The members present and voting at any duly announced meeting of a Conference  
5 agency, board, commission, committee, council or team shall constitute a quorum.

6 **61) Limitations of Service** – No person shall be elected to more than two conference agencies,  
7 boards, commissions, committees, councils, or teams, except for persons who are ex-officio  
8 members by virtue of an office or as a member of a general agency.

9 **62) District Superintendent Voting** – A District Superintendent regularly assigned to any  
10 Conference agency by the Cabinet shall have a vote in that agency and shall be the only  
11 District Superintendent who shall have the right to vote in such agency, except where the  
12 Discipline provides otherwise.

## 14 VII PETITIONS AND ELECTIONS TO GENERAL AND JURISDICTIONAL CONFERENCE

15  
16 **63) Petitions to General Conference** – All petitions to General Conference shall be presented as  
17 prescribed in § 507 of the Discipline. Petitions for endorsement by the Annual Conference to  
18 General Conference will only be considered in the year in which General Conference  
19 delegates will be elected.

20 **64) Nominations** – In a year in which elections to the General and Jurisdictional Conferences are  
21 to be held, the Conference Secretary shall open nominations for lay and clergy delegates on  
22 December 15 and nominations will be closed on February 15. An individual who desires to be  
23 a delegate shall download and complete a candidacy nominations form from the web page.  
24 On the bottom of nominations for Lay Delegates shall be the names of two Lay Members of  
25 the Annual Conference who endorse the nomination of the candidate. On the bottom of  
26 nominations for Clergy Delegates shall be the names of two Clergy Members who are eligible  
27 to vote for such delegates, and who endorse the nomination of the candidate.

28 a) Nominees may address their respective sessions for no more than one minute each,  
29 provided that no more than forty-five minutes shall be allotted for speeches. If more  
30 than 45 lay persons or clergy persons are nominated, the allowed times for individual  
31 speeches will be adjusted accordingly. No speeches regarding nominees will be in order  
32 after the original time allotted for such speeches.

33 **65) Balloting** – The Conference Secretary shall announce the number of clergy delegates to be  
34 elected. A like number of lay delegates will be elected.

35 a) The time of initial balloting shall be set by the agenda committee.

36 b) Balloting shall be by electronic or mechanical means.

37 c) The Secretary shall announce a Chief Clergy Teller and a Chief Lay Teller, and two lists  
38 each of clergy and lay assistants.

39 **66) Voting** – All members, lay and clergy, must be within the bar of the Conference to be eligible  
40 to vote.

41 a) Before each ballot, the President shall announce the number of delegates each ballot  
42 shall elect. To be effective, a ballot must list the exact number of names of lay or clergy  
43 delegates to be elected.

44 b) The intent of the voter shall be allowed regardless of mistakes in spelling.

45 c) Where there is more than one member with the same family name, the Christian name  
46 or identifying initials shall precede the family name.

- 1 d) A majority of valid votes cast shall be necessary for election, except on the ballot to elect  
2 reserve delegates pursuant to Rule 68.  
3 e) Only those nominated are eligible for election. If a ballot lists someone who has not  
4 been nominated, the ballot will be disqualified.

5 **67) Counting and Reporting –**

- 6 a) After a ballot has been counted, the chief teller, either clergy or lay, shall furnish a  
7 written report to the bishop, which shall contain (a) the number of ballots cast; (b) the  
8 number of ballots not valid; (c) the number of valid ballots counted; (d) the number of  
9 ballots necessary to elect; and (e) the list of names of persons voted for, including the  
10 number of votes received by each. The results will be disclosed or displayed before the  
11 next ballot is taken.  
12 b) Minimum Votes. On the first ballot for both General Conference and the jurisdictional  
13 conference, the presiding officer shall read or distribute all names receiving 5 or more  
14 votes, together with the number of votes cast for each. Thereafter, the minimum  
15 number of votes received to be included in the next ballot shall be increased by five for  
16 each delegate elected (that is, on the first ballot a minimum of 5 votes to be included in  
17 the next ballot; after the election of the first delegate, a minimum of 10 votes to be  
18 included in the next ballot; after the election of the second delegate, a minimum of 15  
19 votes, etc.). After the ballot in which the last delegate is elected to the General  
20 Conference, all the names that were originally nominated are available for election to  
21 Jurisdictional conference. Those elected to General Conference will not be listed.  
22 c) If necessary, another ballot shall be taken in like manner, and so on, until the proper  
23 number of delegates has been chosen.

24 **68) Qualifications –**

- 25 a) Clergy Delegates – The Discipline, ¶ 35 (Article IV), permits any active or retired member  
26 of the Annual Conference in full connection to be eligible for election to the General or  
27 Jurisdictional Conferences.  
28 b) Lay Delegates - The Discipline, ¶ 36 (Article V), asserts that lay delegates shall be elected  
29 “without regard to age, provided that such delegates shall have been professing  
30 members of the United Methodist Church for at least two years next preceding their  
31 election, and shall have been active participants in the United Methodist church for at  
32 least four years next preceding their election, and are members thereof within the  
33 Annual Conference electing them at the time of holding the General and Jurisdictional  
34 Conferences.”

35 **69) Reserve Delegates –** After the authorized numbers of delegates have been elected, 3 clergy  
36 and 3 lay reserve delegates shall be elected on a single ballot, with the 3 persons receiving  
37 the greatest number of votes in each category being elected in the order of the number of  
38 votes received.

39  
40 **VIII CONCERNING FINANCIAL OPERATIONS**

41  
42 **70) Budget –** The Annual Conference shall adopt at each Annual Session a budget for each of the  
43 following: Clergy Support, Administrative Costs of the Annual Conference, World Service,  
44 Conference Benevolences, and other Apportioned Funds. These budgets become effective

1 for the fiscal year beginning on January 1st following the session. Apportionments of these  
2 budgets shall be sent to the several churches as soon after the session as is feasible.

3 **71) Apportionments** – The Conference Shared Ministry Budget shall be apportioned annually  
4 among the churches of the Conference according to a formula recommended by the  
5 Conference Council on Finance and Administration and adopted by the Annual Conference.  
6 Following adoption, the formula will remain in effect until such time as changes are  
7 recommended by the CF&A and adopted by the Annual Conference. The formula shall be  
8 outlined on a Shared Ministry data sheet, which shall be distributed to the churches as soon  
9 as practical after the end of each year’s annual conference, but in no event later than the  
10 end of the fiscal year.

11 **72) Prior Action by Council on Finance and Administration** – Every motion, recommendation,  
12 resolution, or other legislative act having to do with budgeting, apportionments, allotments  
13 or expenditure of funds shall first be submitted to the Council on Finance and  
14 Administration. After adequate time is allowed for investigation and study, the council shall  
15 report its recommendation to the Conference. This report shall be received before such  
16 legislation may be acted upon by the Annual Conference.

- 17 a) No agency or member of the Conference shall commit the Conference financially for the  
18 support of programs within or beyond the Greater New Jersey Annual Conference  
19 without first obtaining the approval of the Annual Conference after study and  
20 recommendation of the Council on Finance and Administration, and not until funds are  
21 available or have been allocated to meet such commitments.
- 22 b) Any person or agency requesting an emergency offering should contact one of the Team  
23 Coordinators, who will present the matter to the Cabinet and the Council on Finance and  
24 Administration. Any funds received as a result of such an offering will be held by the  
25 treasurer and administered by a task force established by the Cabinet for that particular  
26 appeal.

27 **73) Time Limit on Submitting Budget Requests** –

- 28 a) Requests for inclusion of an item in the Clergy Support Budget and/or the Administrative  
29 Costs of the Annual Conference Budget to be acted on by an Annual Conference shall be  
30 submitted to the Treasurer’s office by the third Monday of January preceding the date of  
31 the Annual Conference, except in cases of unavoidable emergency.
- 32 b) Requests for inclusion of an item in the World Service Budget and/or the Conference  
33 Benevolences Budget to be acted on by an Annual Conference shall be submitted to the  
34 Connectional Table by January 15 preceding the date of the Annual Conference, except  
35 in cases of unavoidable emergency.

36 **74) Amending Allotments** – An agency shall not attempt to amend its allotment in a proposed  
37 budget submitted to an Annual Conference unless it has previously presented an appeal to  
38 the Council on Finance and Administration at a meeting held preceding the date of the  
39 Conference.

40 **75) Increased Asking by Amendment** – In amending a proposed budget on the floor of the  
41 Annual Conference, no item shall be increased above the amount originally requested by the  
42 responsible agency in its asking to the Council on Finance and Administration, except when  
43 the consent of both the agency and the Council on Finance and Administration has been  
44 obtained.

1 **76) Proper Use of Budgeted Funds** – No agency of the Conference shall spend budgeted funds  
2 for any purpose other than the general purpose for which the funds were originally  
3 requested unless the consent of the Council on Finance and Administration and the  
4 Ministries Team has been obtained for such a reallocation. An expenditure item shall be  
5 budgeted for the year when it is expected to be spent, and it shall be spent only in the year  
6 for which it is budgeted. When uncontrollable circumstances warrant, an emergency request  
7 may be directed through the Ministries Team to the Council on Finance and Administration  
8 for a budget adjustment.

9 **77) Financial Appeals to the Churches** – Any agency planning to send a communication or  
10 appeal to the churches requesting contributions to any agency or fund shall first submit its  
11 proposed communication or appeal to the Council on Finance and Administration. The  
12 Council shall ascertain if the procedure is in accord with existing legislation and shall make  
13 certain that remitting instructions are correct. Any contribution received by the Conference  
14 Treasurer in response to a communication which has not been cleared as herein provided  
15 shall be credited automatically to World Service and Conference Benevolences through the  
16 remitting church.

17 **78) Customary Draft** – When presented and endorsed, the customary draft from the United  
18 Methodist Publishing House shall be turned over to the Conference Treasurer for pensions  
19 for clergy of the central conferences.

20 **79) Bonding** – All persons who hold or disburse conference funds shall be bonded in such  
21 amounts as may be deemed wise by the Council on Finance and Administration.

22 **80) Fiscal Year** – The fiscal year shall coincide with the calendar year unless another fiscal year is  
23 designated by the Conference Treasurer after approval by the Conference. All payments to  
24 be credited to a given fiscal year shall be in the hands of the Conference Treasurer not later  
25 than the following January 20th. All local church financial reports shall be forwarded to the  
26 Conference Treasurer by a deadline to be announced annually.

27 **81) Audit** – The Council on Finance and Administration shall be responsible for arranging that a  
28 Certified Public Accountant shall audit the accounts of the Annual Conference. The Council  
29 on Finance and Administration shall publish a statement of Certification of each audit in the  
30 Journal.

## 31 IX CONSENT CALENDAR

### 32 **82) Consent Calendar** –

- 33
- 34
- 35 a) The Conference Agenda Committee may present to the Annual Conference a proposed  
36 consent calendar, including those items which the Annual Conference may approve with  
37 one vote of approval by the Conference membership.
- 38 b) A written list of items on the consent calendar, including the name of the motion, name  
39 of the author, and page number in the Pre-Conference Workbook will be presented to all  
40 members of the Conference upon check-in at the Conference session.
- 41 c) The consent calendar list will include a space where Conference members may check any  
42 item(s) which they would like to see removed from the consent calendar.
- 43 d) To vote to remove an item from the consent calendar, Conference members must:
- 44 i. Check the item(s) they wish to see removed from the list, or
- 45 ii. Write in an item which has been added subsequently by Conference action.

- 1                   iii. Print his or her name and church on the list and sign the list.  
2                   iv. Bring the list to the Conference Secretary's table and give the list to the Conference  
3                   Secretary or one of the Assistant Secretaries.  
4                   e) If any item on the consent calendar receives ten (10) or more such votes in favor of  
5                   removing it from the consent calendar, that item will be removed and placed on the  
6                   Conference agenda by the Agenda Committee.  
7                   f) All requests for items to be removed from the consent calendar shall be delivered to the  
8                   Conference Secretary as early as possible, but no requests will be received within the  
9                   last twenty-four (24) hours before the stated time of adjournment of the Conference  
10                  session. During this last twenty-four (24) hour period, items may only be removed from  
11                  the consent calendar by a  $\frac{3}{4}$  vote of the Conference.  
12

## 13                  **X    NOMINATION OF EPISCOPAL CANDIDATES**

14  
15                  **83) Nomination of Episcopal Candidates** - The procedure for nomination of Episcopal  
16                  Candidates to the Jurisdictional Conference as permitted by ¶1405 of the Book of Discipline  
17                  shall be as follows:

- 18                  a) In a year in which one or more Episcopal Candidates are to be nominated by the Annual  
19                  Conference, the Conference Secretary shall provide for the receiving of nominations  
20                  until the deadline for submission of proposed legislation for that year's annual  
21                  conference. Each proposed nomination shall be submitted on one side of an 8 ½ x 11-  
22                  inch sheet of paper or by electronic means designated by the Conference Secretary. Only  
23                  eligible persons may be nominated. The bishop shall, before the ballot is taken, remind  
24                  the Annual Conference of the eligibility requirements for election to the office of the  
25                  episcopacy.  
26                  b) The Jurisdictional Conference delegates (acting as a group) shall have the privilege to  
27                  speak to the Annual Conference on behalf of the person(s) they have endorsed for  
28                  nomination to the episcopacy (provided they have submitted such nomination in the  
29                  manner described in Rule 82(a) above). If no other nominations have been submitted as  
30                  indicated in Rule 82(a) above, the bishop shall call for a vote of the body. A majority vote  
31                  will be sufficient for this person (these persons) to be recognized as the episcopal  
32                  nominee(s) of the Annual Conference.  
33                  c) If there are additional nominations submitted in accordance with Rule 82(a) above, the  
34                  Bishop shall call for a written or electronic ballot following this procedure.  
35                  i.    Nominees may each give a three-minute speech. There shall be no seconding  
36                  speeches.  
37                  ii.   If any ballot contains the name of an ineligible person, that name shall not be tallied,  
38                  but other names on the ballot shall be tallied.  
39                  iii.   Conference members may vote for one such nominated individual. An individual  
40                  must receive 60% of those voting to be nominated by the Annual Conference. If an  
41                  individual does not receive 60% of the vote by the fifth ballot there will be no  
42                  nominee. If someone is nominated, the conference will take up to three ballots to  
43                  see if a second person is nominated. If no one receives 60% of the vote by the third  
44                  ballot there will not be a second nominee. Those who do not wish to see anyone

1 nominated may so indicate that desire on their ballots (in the manner prescribed by  
2 the Conference Secretary) and the ballot shall be counted as cast.

- 3 d) Only the persons selected in the foregoing manner shall be deemed Nominees of the  
4 Greater New Jersey Annual Conference.
- 5 e) This procedure shall not foreclose efforts by individuals or groups in the Annual  
6 Conference to promote the candidacy for the episcopacy of other persons.

## 7 8 **XI RULES OF ORDER RESOLUTIONS**

### 9 10 **84) Resolutions to Change the Rules of Order –**

- 11 a) Any resolution or proposed change, by addition or deletion to the Rules of Order, with  
12 the exception of ***Concerning Financial Operations***, shall first be referred to the  
13 Committee on Rules of Order for its recommendation. The Committee shall submit its  
14 recommendation to the body prior to any action by the body. The initiator of any  
15 proposed change to be included in the Pre-conference mailing shall at the same time  
16 submit a copy of said proposed change to the chairperson of the Committee on Rules of  
17 Order. The Rules Committee may request a meeting with the initiator prior to the  
18 convening of the Annual Conference.
- 19 b) If the change is proposed at the site of the Annual Conference, it shall be referred to the  
20 Committee on Rules of Order and a report to the body will be made no later than the  
21 next plenary session.

## 22 23 **XII HOLY CONFERCING PROCEDURE FOR CERTAIN GENERAL CONFERENCE PETITIONS**

24  
25 **85)** A procedure to facilitate holy conferencing shall be used, at the Bishop's discretion, to  
26 discuss petitions to General Conference regarding issues related to human sexuality or such  
27 other issues that would benefit from the same procedure.

28 A special order of the day will be established to provide for holy conferencing. The special  
29 order of the day shall proceed as follows:

- 30 i. Representatives of the two primary positions selected by the bishop will each make  
31 a twenty-minute presentation.
- 32 ii. Upon conclusion of the opening presentations, the bishop shall bring the Conference  
33 into silent prayer for two minutes.
- 34 iii. Then ten minutes will be provided for delegates to share what they heard with their  
35 fellow Christians seated to their immediate left and right. This is not a time for  
36 debate, but rather to listen to what their neighbors heard.
- 37 iv. The bishop will then call the Conference to order. Delegates will then have the  
38 opportunity to share their thoughts with the Conference. The bishop shall establish a  
39 total amount of time for discussion, not to exceed sixty minutes. No member may  
40 speak longer than two minutes. All speakers will be notified when ten seconds  
41 remain of their time. The speaker will be allowed to finish a sentence at the  
42 expiration of allotted time. Then, that microphone will be cut off and the next  
43 speaker will be recognized. This will continue until the total allotted minutes have  
44 elapsed or everyone who wished to be recognized had an opportunity to speak,

1                               whichever comes first. No subsidiary privileged or incidental motions will be in order  
2                               during this time of discussion.

3                               v. The regular business of the Conference will then resume.  
4

5                               At a previously noted time during plenary session on the following session day, the  
6                               petitions will be voted upon by secret written ballot. Thirty minutes will be allotted for  
7                               this vote. No debate or motions will be in order at this time.  
8

9                               **XIII HOLY CONFERENCING PROCEDURE FOR PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS**

10  
11                              **86)** A procedure to facilitate holy conferencing shall be used at the bishop’s discretion to discuss  
12                              proposed Constitutional amendments coming from the General Conference.

13                              A special order of the day may be established to provide for holy conferencing. The special  
14                              order of the day shall proceed as follows:

- 15                              i. The co-chairs of the delegation to General Conference will present the proposed  
16                              amendments to the Conference in a fifteen-minute presentation.
- 17                              ii. Upon conclusion of the opening presentation, the bishop shall bring the Conference  
18                              into silent prayer for two minutes.
- 19                              iii. Then up to ten minutes will be provided for members to share what they heard with  
20                              their fellow Christians seated to their immediate left and right. This is not a time for  
21                              debate, but rather to listen to what their neighbors heard.
- 22                              iv. The bishop will then call the Conference to order. Members will then have the  
23                              opportunity to share their thoughts with the Conference. Sixty minutes will be  
24                              allotted for this. No member may speak longer than two minutes. Each speaker will  
25                              be notified when ten seconds remains of their time. The speaker will be allowed to  
26                              finish a sentence at the expiration of their time. Then, that microphone will be cut  
27                              off and the next speaker will be recognized. This will continue until sixty minutes  
28                              have elapsed or everyone who wishes to speak has been recognized whichever  
29                              comes first. No changes are permitted to be made to Constitutional amendments.
- 30                              v. The regular business of the Conference will then resume.  
31

32                              At a previously noted time during a subsequent plenary session, the amendments will be voted  
33                              upon by secret ballot. Members will be able to vote in favor of or against each individual  
34                              amendment. If a member wishes to abstain, the member will leave the ballot blank for that  
35                              particular amendment.  
36

37                              Should any of the foregoing Rules of the Greater New Jersey Annual Conference be in conflict  
38                              with the provisions of the current Book of Discipline, then the provisions of the Discipline shall  
39                              take precedence.  
40

41                              \* **Revised May 2021**  
42



# LIMITLESS

 **IGNITE CONFERENCE**

**SEP 30 - OCT 2, 2022**  
**WILDWOOD, NJ**

**"For as the heavens are higher than the earth so are  
my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts  
than your thoughts."  
- Isaiah 55:9**

  
**ignitenj.org**



**NEXT GENERATION**  
UNITED METHODISTS  
OF GREATER NEW JERSEY

# 1 Reports to Greater New Jersey

## 3 Commission on Archives and History

5 **MISSION:** The Commission on Archives and History (CAH) engages in the ministry of memory. We advance  
6 our Wesleyan heritage by providing resources for GNJC at a minimal impact on the shared ministry budget.  
7 As the keepers of our missional memory, we support vital congregations by resourcing clergy, lay leaders,  
8 and church historians with the tools to strengthen our Wesleyan identity. We fulfill our Disciplinary mandate  
9 to identify, preserve and make available the historic record of ministry within GNJC. Our extensive physical  
10 archival and digital collections serve as resources within which local churches can research their “Methodist  
11 DNA,” and function as repositories where churches can securely maintain their historical records and  
12 artifacts. Additionally, we post guidelines for Church Historians, suggestions for writing church histories,  
13 records retention schedules, and provide other valuable resources online through the CAH webpage on the  
14 GNJC website.

16 **ARCHIVAL COLLECTION:** We preserve the historical records of closed churches within the bounds of GNJC  
17 and its antecedents and provide for the retention of the corporate records of GNJC boards, agencies, and  
18 committees. We manage a 1,100+ cubic foot archival collection located in the fire-safe, climate controlled,  
19 archival depository in the vault of the General Commission on Archives and History (GCAH) of the UMC, in  
20 the Archives and History Center at Drew University in Madison, NJ. Our archival space is secured through a  
21 unique and cost-effective rental agreement with GCAH.

23 **ANCESTRY.COM:** Our GNJCAH page on Ancestry.com received a total of **370,554 page-views**, during 2021. As  
24 a result, our closed church vital statistics (births, baptisms, deaths, and marriage records) are easily  
25 accessible, highly utilized, and extend our CAH impact far beyond GNJC. On Ancestry.com, our GNJC records  
26 are identified as: **New Jersey, United Methodist Church Records, 1800-1970.**

28 **FRANCIS ASBURY CELEBRATION:** This year marked the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Francis Asbury’s arrival in  
29 America. He was not the first of John Wesley’s Methodist Missionaries to come to America, but he became  
30 our first, and foremost, Bishop. Special celebrations were held on either side of the Atlantic Ocean, with the  
31 American ceremonies held at Old Historic St. George’s church in Philadelphia on the weekend of October  
32 30<sup>th</sup>. Bishop Schol preached at the anniversary service on Sunday, October 31<sup>st</sup>. Several of our current and  
33 former commission members were privileged to participate in the celebrations.

35 **INTERNET ARCHIVE:** We support a digital library of historical journals and resources on Internet Archive (IA)  
36 and maintain a link to this resource from the GNJC website. IA is a free portal that allows us to post material  
37 without impacting GNJC shared ministry resources. Digital copies of The Historical Trail and The Circuit  
38 Writer, the respective historical journals of the former SNJ & NNJ Annual Conferences, are available on  
39 Internet Archive. Since 2016, the GNJC materials on IA have generated 5,895 page-views, 1,505 of which  
40 were in 2021. Newly posted in 2021 is a finding aid for our collection of Clark Hunt’s Sermons, which already  
41 has had 11 views.

43 **WORK OF THE ARCHIVIST:** Our sad news during 2021 was the retirement of our long-time volunteer  
44 archivist, Walter Jones. Walt brought a passion for genealogy and the joy of the hunt to responding to the  
45 many inquiries that we regularly receive for information. He often went above and beyond to assist people  
46 with finding the information for which they were searching. We are grateful to Walt for the many years and  
47 countless hours he devoted to the ministry of memory here in GNJ. We wish him many blessings. He will be  
48 greatly missed!

1 **CHURCH HISTORY AWARDS:** We support the celebration of our Wesleyan heritage and the preservation of  
2 local church history by hosting three annual church history awards:

- 3
- 4 **1. The Robert B. Steelman Church History Award**, which recognizes the best, overall, church history  
5 submitted each year. It is named after Rev. Robert (Bob) Steelman, the long-time SNJ/GNJ Historian  
6 and the original GNJ Archivist.  
7
- 8 **2. The Morris L. Smith Ethnic Church History Award**, which encourages the collection and preservation  
9 of the unique stories of our diverse ethnic congregations within GNJ. The award is named after Mr.  
10 Morris L. Smith, the deeply revered former historian of Mt. Zion UMC in Lawnside, NJ. Mr. Smith was  
11 gifted at mentoring others, dedicated to improving the lives of underprivileged children, and deeply  
12 committed to bridging racial divides by creating strong, collaborative relationships.  
13
- 14 **3. The John C. Goodwin Multi-Media History Award**, which recognizes the preservation of our church  
15 histories and faith stories using multi-media platforms. It is named after John Goodwin, a former  
16 staff member of the General Board of Global Ministries and conference photographer for NNJ and  
17 GNJ.  
18

19 These awards are advertised on the CAH webpage on the conference website ([gnjc.org/ministry](http://gnjc.org/ministry)  
20 [resources/agencies and committees/commission on archives and history/archives and history](#)  
21 [resources/local history awards](#)), as well as through the GNJC awards promotions in the GNJ Digest. Each  
22 award is dependent upon qualified submissions being received. In 2021, we did not receive submissions nor  
23 make any awards.  
24

25 **CONFERENCE HISTORIC SITES:** Recognizing churches as conference historic sites inspires congregations to  
26 celebrate their place in the mission of GNJC. We are available to consult with congregations on the historic  
27 site nomination process.  
28

29 **NOMINATE YOUR CHURCH:** We welcome congregations to request nomination as a Conference Historic Site.  
30 A church must demonstrate that a site played a significant role in the historic development of our  
31 conference or denomination to be considered. We believe that there are other candidates for this honor in  
32 GNJ, especially within our growing diversity of ethnic churches, and invite congregations to reach out to the  
33 commission to explore this opportunity.  
34

35 **GNJ CONFERENCE HISTORIC SITES:**

36 *[GNJC sites currently listed on the General Commission on Archives and History (GCAH) Conference Historic*  
37 *Site roster. Sites listed in order registered by GCAH. GCAH Historic Site Number precedes the church name.]*

- 38 1) 44 Cape May Monument, Cape May, NJ
- 39 2) 174 Mt Zion UM Church, Lawnside, NJ
- 40 3) 175 First UM Church, Trenton, NJ
- 41 4) 176 Head of the River UM Church, Estell Manor, NJ
- 42 5) 177 First UM Church, Salem, NJ
- 43 6) 178 Ocean Grove Camp Meeting, Ocean Grove, NJ
- 44 7) 207 Broad Street UM Church, Burlington, NJ
- 45 8) 214 Old First UM Church, West Long Branch, NJ
- 46 9) 223 Batsto-Pleasant Mills Meeting House, Pleasant Mills, NJ
- 47 10) 224 Gloucester Point, Gloucester, NJ
- 48 11) 272 First UM Church, Sea Bright, NJ
- 49 12) 273 John Wesley UM Church, Swainton, NJ

- 1 13) 274 Trinity UM Church, Merchantville, NJ
- 2 14) 284 Pemberton UM Church, Pemberton, NJ
- 3 15) 291 Old Stone Church, Woolwich Township, NJ
- 4 16) 320 Mt. Hope UM Church, Salem, NJ
- 5 17) 426 "Old Main", Pennington School, Pennington, NJ
- 6 18) 483 Mount Tabor Camp Meeting, Mount Tabor, NJ
- 7 19) 500 South Seaville Camp Meeting Association, South Seaville, NJ
- 8 20) 509 Flanders UM Church, Flanders, NJ
- 9 21) 510 The Neighborhood Center in Camden, NJ
- 10 22) 511 Port Elizabeth UM Church, Port Elizabeth, NJ
- 11 23) 513 McCullough House, Asbury, NJ
- 12 24) 514 Asbury UM Church, Asbury, NJ
- 13 25) 519 Franklin-St. John's UMC, Newark, NJ
- 14 26) 520 Morristown UM Church, Morristown, NJ
- 15 27) 522 The Theological School, Drew University, Madison, NJ
- 16 28) 537 Frankford Plains UMC, Frankford Plains, Sussex County, NJ
- 17 29) 538 Old Stone Church, Upper Nyack, NY
- 18 30) 539 St. John UM Church, Fairfield Twp., NJ (Fordville)
- 19 31) 551: Evangelical UM Church, Clarksboro, NJ
- 20 32) 552: Kingwood UM Church, Stockton, NJ
- 21 33) 553: Emanuel UM Church, Union City, NJ
- 22 34) 556: Centenary College, now Centenary University, Hackettstown, NJ

23

24 **NEJCAH:** We continue to have a representative, Donald DeGroat, on the Northeast Jurisdiction Commission  
25 on Archives and History Executive Board. Don's role gives GNJ CAH a leadership role on the jurisdictional  
26 commission. We actively support the ministry of NEJCAH.

27

28 **CONSULTATION AND SPEAKING:** We also stand ready to provide consultation on historical issues and  
29 assistance in planning and celebrating significant anniversaries and events, including providing speakers to  
30 lift-up the historical significance of the church or explore other topics related to our Wesleyan tradition,  
31 American Methodism and GNJ history. For questions regarding consultation or speaking engagements please  
32 contact the chairperson.

33

34 **RESOURCES:** The commission maintains a robust list of links to historical resources, which include: The  
35 Challenges of Being a Church Historian, Greater New Jersey Archival Holdings, Celebrating Our Methodist  
36 Heritage, Church Record Retention Schedule, Conservation Tips, Greater New Jersey Historic Sites, How to  
37 Write a Local Church History, United Methodist Church Timeline, Heritage Sunday information, Greater New  
38 Jersey CAH Historical Library and the United Methodist African American Timeline. Downloads are also  
39 available on topics such as GNJ Historic Sites, Local Church Vital Records Online, How Do We Date Our  
40 Church's Beginning? And African American Central Jurisdiction Churches. These resources may be found on  
41 the CAH webpage ([gnjc.org/ministry/resources/agencies and committees/commission on archives and  
42 history/archives and history resources](http://gnjc.org/ministry/resources/agencies_and_committees/commission_on_archives_and_history/archives_and_history_resources)).

43

44 **SUMMARY:** 2021 was a period of transition for our commission. Due to Covid-19 restrictions at Drew  
45 University, we had limited access to our physical archival collection for much of the year. However, in the fall  
46 we regained some access to our materials through the return of the staff from the General Commission on  
47 Archives and History to the Archives Center. As a result, work was again able to resume on organizing and  
48 digitally scanning the Clark Hunt Sermon manuscripts and a finding aid was created for that collection.  
49 Additionally, our online platforms, like Ancestry.com and Internet Archive (see above), continued to make

1 our digitized materials readily available. Further, in spite of the budgetary limitations imposed by conference  
2 in response to financial concerns, we were able to make important investments in our core mission. With the  
3 support of our Conference Treasurer Rob Zuckerman, the Director of Connectional Ministries Eric Drew, and  
4 the members of CF&A, we were able to meet our obligations for our archives space rental and purchase a  
5 new laptop computer and software that will allow us both to maintain our core functionality and to,  
6 ultimately, move toward archiving and preserving digital materials. We are grateful for this support.  
7

8 **PERSONAL PRIVILEGE:**

9 I wish to thank all of the current and former members of the commission for their dedicated and faithful  
10 efforts to advance our ministry of memory within GNJC. I feel privileged to serve as chairperson of such a  
11 great team!

12 Submitted by John D. Callanan  
13  
14

15 **Boston University School of Theology**

16  
17 I am profoundly grateful for your partnership, prayers, and support in these challenging times. A year like  
18 2021 makes even more relevant BUSTH's historic and ongoing commitments to peace and justice in  
19 cultivating transformational leaders. We remain hopeful and vigilant in our continued partnership with you.  
20

21 **BREAKING NEWS:**

- 22 • Return to Campus: Faculty, administrators, and library returned to in-person instruction and work  
23 in Fall 2021, with many events reaching hybrid audiences. Strict COVID-19 precautions continue  
24 to ensure the safety of students, faculty, and administrators.
- 25 • Students: Our Fall 2021 entering class was among our most diverse, with 108 new students  
26 enrolling in September.
- 27 • Faculty: In September we celebrated the appointment of Cristian De La Rosa as Associate Dean for  
28 Students and Community Life. Prof. Shelly Rambo leads the Lilly-funded project on "Trauma-  
29 Responsive Congregations," and two faculty members—Profs. Dana Robert and Wesley Wildman—  
30 were each honored with festschrifts. Prof. Jonathan Calvillo's book *The Saints of Santa Ana* received  
31 the HTI Book Award, and Prof. Choi Hee An published *A Postcolonial Leadership*. BUSTH is  
32 conducting two faculty searches with anticipation of welcoming new faculty in the fall.
- 33 • Launch of a New Online Degree: BUSTH's first fully online master's degree—the Master of Religion  
34 and Public Leadership (MARPL)—is currently enrolling students for its first cohort in fall 2022.  
35 MARPL seeks students who wish to be prepared for leadership roles that creatively engage the  
36 challenges of public life.
- 37 • Peale Foundation Grant: Prof. Steven Sandage and his research team were awarded a \$2.19 million,  
38 five-year grant by the Norman Vincent Peale Foundation for a project that fosters a network of  
39 communities for relational care and support to spiritual leaders and therapists to offer resources to  
40 reduce trauma risk and vocational burnout and foster flourishing.
- 41 • Scholarships: We continue to offer free tuition to UMC-registered candidates for ordained ministry  
42 and leadership fellowships that support students in ethnic, gender, and sexuality studies. New  
43 funds include the Sacred Worth Scholarship Fund and the Dean Thurman & Bishop Easterling  
44 Fellowship Fund.
- 45 • Online Lifelong Learning: BUSTH offers online workshops for professional and spiritual enrichment  
46 of religious leaders. Recent workshops include "Practices of Grief in a Time of Pandemic" and  
47 "Reflecting with Howard Thurman." To learn more, visit [bu.edu/sth/oll](http://bu.edu/sth/oll).

- Development: Recent accomplishments include endowing the Center for Global Christianity and Mission upon its 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary and new funding for student scholarships and academic programs.

COMMITMENT TO JUSTICE and COMPASSION:

- BUSTH's Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion offers webinars on timely inclusion efforts, such as "Increasing Participation of Students of Underrepresented Backgrounds."
- The 2021-22 Lowell Lectures are dedicated to cross-advocacy and intersectionality in racial justice efforts. This fall, Dr. Kwok Pui Lan advocated for broader understandings of political theology and greater awareness of anti-Asian sentiment and violence. A diverse panel response fostered rich conversation.
- Work continues to improve accessibility, sustainability, and responsible investing. BUSTH is the first certified Green School at BU and active in the Green Seminary Initiative.

Submitted by G. Sujin Pak

## 2023 Budget Schedules

### Income Details

	<b><u>2023</u></b> <b><u>Budget</u></b>	<b><u>2022</u></b> <b><u>Budget</u></b>
<b>GNJ SHARED MINISTRY</b>		
Apportionment Base	63,963,783	66,264,500
GNJ Shared Ministry Percent	6.2% to 12.3% (wt. avg. 11.8%)	6.2% to 12.3% (wt. avg. 11.8%)
Total Apportioned Shared Ministry	7,529,954	7,921,294
Anticipated Giving rate	<u>91%</u>	<u>90.0%</u>
Net GNJ Shared Ministry	6,852,258	7,129,164

Apportionment Base – the total spending of all congregations minus a congregation’s mission spending, shared ministry giving, and capital expenditures. For the 2022 budget, the 2019 statistics were used to calculate the Shared Ministry Apportionment base because the 2020 statistics were impacted by Covid. For 2023 budget, because the 2021 statistics were impacted by Covid, the average of 2019 & 2021 were used. In the 2024 budget, the 2022 statistical Shared Ministry Base will be used regardless of Covid’s impact as GNJ and its congregations emerge from the pandemic.

GNJ Shared Ministry Percent - on October 5, 2020, GNJ courageously passed a historic legislation, A Journey of Hope (JOH), based on its commitment to end the sin of racism and create a more racially just, inclusive, and equitable church. As part of the JOH, GNJ set a new *Shared Ministry Percentage* for local churches based on the income level of the community where the church is located. In 2023, the Shared Ministry percentage for local churches will be between 6.2% and 12.3%, depending on the average income level of the community.

Anticipated Giving rate – on average the percentage of Shared Ministry given by congregations. In 2013 the average giving was 78% and in 2021 it was 93%. Over the years GNJ congregations have made great progress in their stewardship and giving to Shared Ministry. For 2023 budget, 91% is used because of the volatility created by the pandemic, economic challenges and any denominational matters.

**Income Details****2023**  
**Budget****2022**  
**Budget****GNJ PORTION OF GENERAL CHURCH MINISTERIAL EDUCATION FUND (MEF)**

Total Ministerial Education apportionment	298,539	298,539
GNJ Portion %	25%	25%
GNJ Portion	74,635	74,635
Anticipated Giving rate	91%	90%
Net GNJ MEF Portion	<u>67,918</u>	<u>67,171</u>

**LOCAL CHURCH BILLING REVENUE**

Assumed collection rate	96%	95%
Healthcare blended rate	20,500	18,000
Health & Dental	5,884,734	5,043,132
Pension	3,619,921	3,606,202
Property / Workers Comp	6,218,887	5,259,244
	<u>15,723,542</u>	<u>13,908,578</u>

**CENTENARY FUND CONTRIBUTION**

	<u>700,000</u>	<u>700,000</u>
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**DESIGNATED FUNDS**

Forecasted 2022 year-end balance	14,077,554	13,452,330
Exclude Operating Reserve	(3,000,000)	
Exclude 2022 deposits	(2,089,665)	(1,881,630)
Net eligible for disbursement	8,987,889	11,570,700
Disbursement %	5%	5%
Designated funds disbursement	<u>449,394</u>	<u>578,535</u>

**PROPERTY SALES REVENUE**

Forecasted 2023 total sales income	3,850,000	3,700,000
Allocated to budget %	31%	47%
Allocated to budget	<u>1,185,000</u>	<u>1,732,000</u>

**Income Details**

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	<b><u>Budget</u></b>	<b><u>Budget</u></b>
<b>GRANTS AND DONATIONS</b>		
Misc. grants	25,000	25,000
Episcopal Office	123,205	85,470
	<u>148,205</u>	<u>110,470</u>
<b>REGISTRATIONS</b>		
Annual Conference	177,500	152,500
Local Pastor School	4,000	4,000
Certified Lay Minister Course	800	800
Lay Servant Ministries Courses	6,200	6,200
Bishop's Convocation	81,250	
	<u>269,750</u>	<u>163,500</u>
<b>SHARED SERVICES (UM FOUNDATION)</b>	<u>45,000</u>	<u>45,000</u>
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<u><u>25,441,067</u></u>	<u><u>24,434,419</u></u>

**Personnel**

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	<b><u>Budget</u></b>	<b><u>Budget</u></b>
<b>GNJ STAFF</b>		
Salary	3,722,265	3,393,021
Benefits	1,099,523	998,417
Travel / Continuing Ed	151,337	148,960
GNJ elected leadership & staff development	35,000	50,000
	<u>5,008,124</u>	<u>4,590,398</u>
<b>CLERGY BENEFITS BILLINGS</b>		
Congregations' Clergy and Lay Health & Dental	5,845,235	5,263,087
Congregations' Clergy and Lay Pension	2,962,158	3,876,649
	<u>8,807,394</u>	<u>9,139,736</u>
<b>RETIREE HEALTH INSURANCE</b>		
Retirees under 65 (Healthflex plan)	400,680	381,600
Retirees over 65 (United plan)	1,744,472	1,661,402
Retirees income (only from those who do not qualify for maximum benefit because of years of	(107,977)	(104,832)
	<u>2,037,175</u>	<u>1,938,170</u>
<b>TOTAL PERSONNEL</b>	<u>15,852,693</u>	<u>15,668,304</u>

**Leadership Development**

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	<b><u>Budget</u></b>	<b><u>Budget</u></b>
<b>BOARD OF LAITY</b>		
Board Ministry Expenses	2,000	4,000
<b>LAY SERVANTY MINISTRY</b>		
Certified Lay Ministry Training	800	800
Lay Servant Expenses	6,200	6,000
	<u>7,000</u>	<u>6,800</u>
<b>BOARD OF ORDAINED MINISTRY (Discernment of Clergy)</b>		
Adm/General Exp.	1,000	2,000
Conference Relations	-	1,000
Board Meeting Expenses	1,000	1,000
Background Checks	4,000	1,000
BOOM Retreats/Interviews	26,500	25,000
Psych. Evals.	33,000	30,500
Special Training (includes Intro to Ministry)	6,000	10,000
DCOM Expenses	2,400	3,000
RIM Expenses	13,000	13,000
Fellowship/Orders	1,000	1,000
Cont. Ed: individual and group (includes RIM Retreat)	3,000	12,829
Local Pastor Licensing School	7,000	7,000
Career/Family Counseling	500	500
	<u>98,400</u>	<u>107,829</u>
<b>MINISTERIAL EDUCATION</b>		
Course of Study/Scholarships	40,000	40,000
Continuing Education: Individual and group	27,918	27,171
	<u>67,918</u>	<u>67,171</u>
<b>TOTAL LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT</b>	<u><u>175,318</u></u>	<u><u>185,800</u></u>

## Congregational Development

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	<b><u>Budget</u></b>	<b><u>Budget</u></b>
<b>CLERGY, LAITY, CONGREGATIONAL DEVELOPMENT</b>		
Leadership Academy	60,000	102,500
Regional Resourcing	60,000	60,000
Breakthrough	5,000	8,000
Mission School	5,000	5,000
Bishops Convocation	131,250	50,000
Bishop's Retreat with those to be ordained and commissioned	5,000	4,000
<b>CABINET</b>		
Leadership/Congregational Dev Grants	200,000	300,000
Strategic Disciple Making Fund Grants	100,000	100,000
Mosaic Grants	20,000	20,000
Circuit Elders	180,000	165,000
Recruitment	2,000	2,000
Equitable Clergy Compensation Grants	200,000	100,000
Strategic Clergy Salary Support Grants	100,000	100,000
<b>TOTAL CONGREGATIONAL DEVELOPMENT</b>	<b><u><u>1,068,250</u></u></b>	<b><u><u>1,016,500</u></u></b>

## Mission & Justice Ministries

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	<b><u>Budget</u></b>	<b><u>Budget</u></b>
Community Outreach Grants	230,000	230,000
Disaster Response	1,000	5,842
Justice for Our Neighbors	5,000	10,000
Rise Against Hunger	-	50,000
Tanzania Pastors School GNJ Travel	12,000	12,000
Journey of Hope Consultant	50,000	110,000
Journey of Hope Equity Grants	570,000	270,000
A Journey of Hope; training, internships, ministry	75,000	30,000
Next Gen	200,000	170,000
NEJ Conference	30,000	30,000
Drew School of Theology	100,000	100,000
NJ Interfaith Coalition/NJ Council of Churches	10,000	10,000
	<u>1,283,000</u>	<u>1,027,842</u>

## Agency Budgets

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	<b><u>Budget</u></b>	<b><u>Budget</u></b>
Board of Global Ministries	100	100
Board of Church and Society	100	250
Board of Higher Education and Campus Ministry	40,000	42,000
Board of Discipleship	100	250
Commission on Archives and History	6,000	6,000
Commission on Christian Unity	2,000	2,000
Commission on Religion and Race	1,000	1,000
Commission on Small Membership Church	100	100
Commission on Status and Role of Women	100	250
Committee on Disability Concerns	100	100
Committee on Ethnic Local Church Concerns	1,000	100
Korean American Plan	14,000	10,000
Strengthening the Black Church	2,000	5,000
Hispanic Plan	2,000	5,000
Committee on Native American Ministry	100	250
Council on Young Adult Ministry	100	500
Council on Youth Ministry	100	500
United Methodist Men	100	200
United Methodist Women	100	200
Connectional Table	1,000	2,500
	<u>70,100</u>	<u>76,300</u>

## Administration

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	<b><u>Budget</u></b>	<b><u>Budget</u></b>
Superintending Admin Expenses	38,000	38,000
Episcopal Office Admin Expenses	16,500	20,500
Audit	20,000	40,000
Chancellor and legal work	150,000	100,000
Postage/Supplies	13,000	21,500
Conference Secretary	10,750	10,500
Active Clergy moving expenses	15,000	-
Conference Journal	33,000	33,000
Information Technologies	47,000	46,500
Copier lease/usage	40,000	32,000
Processing fees (payroll, banking, credit cards)	35,000	24,000
Other Administration	10,500	26,120
	<u>428,750</u>	<u>392,120</u>

## Communications

	<b><u>2023</u></b> <b><u>Budget</u></b>	<b><u>2022</u></b> <b><u>Budget</u></b>
Annual Conference Session	425,000	437,000
Relay	60,000	50,000
Photography	4,000	3,500
Tanzania translation services	-	-
Hosting/Licensing Fees	35,000	35,000
Website Maintenance/Updates	7,000	7,000
Website Redesign	10,000	15,000
Studio/Equipment Maintenance	10,000	7,000
	<u>551,000</u>	<u>554,500</u>

**Property**

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	<b><u>Budget</u></b>	<b><u>Budget</u></b>
<b>CONGREGATIONS' PROPERTY INSURANCE &amp; WORKERS COMP</b>	5,783,935	5,032,770
<b>GNJ MRC PROPERTY</b>		
Maintenance	80,000	85,000
Utilities	63,000	63,000
Cleaning Service	4,000	4,000
Phone	19,000	19,000
Property Insurance	18,000	18,000
Misc. Expenses	8,000	8,000
	<u>192,000</u>	<u>197,000</u>
<b>SUPERINTENDENT PARSONAGES</b>		
Maintenance	23,700	17,500
Utilities	25,400	30,900
Property Insurance	3,105	4,100
	<u>52,205</u>	<u>52,500</u>
<b>CLOSED CHURCH PROPERTY MAINTENANCE &amp; REPAIRS</b>	<u>175,000</u>	<u>175,000</u>
<b>TOTAL PROPERTY</b>	<u><u>6,203,140</u></u>	<u><u>5,457,270</u></u>

**General Church Apportionments**

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	<b><u>Budget</u></b>	<b><u>Budget</u></b>
World Service	953,182	953,182
Ministerial Education	298,539	298,539
Black College	137,964	137,964
Africa University	31,017	31,017
Episcopal	382,738	382,738
General Administration	117,384	117,384
Interdenominational Cooperation	4,127	4,127
	<u>1,924,950</u>	<u>1,924,950</u>

**Next Generation**

	<b><u>2023</u></b> <b><u>Budget</u></b>	<b><u>2022</u></b> <b><u>Budget</u></b>
<b><u>Next Gen Income:</u></b>		
Reserve Interest (Aldersgate Proceeds)	25,000	25,000
Camping	297,500	13,500
Youth Activities	152,500	139,500
Total Income	<u>475,000</u>	<u>178,000</u>
<b><u>Next Gen Expenses:</u></b>		
Personnel	198,612	113,612
Operations	8,288	6,000
Camping	267,000	71,500
Youth Activities	201,100	181,100
Total Expenses	<u>675,000</u>	<u>372,212</u>
Next Gen Surplus/(Deficit) *	<u>(200,000)</u>	<u>(194,212)</u>

\* See "Mission & Justice Ministries" budget

1 **Cabinet Report**

2  
3 **“But he knows the way that I take; when he has tested me, I shall come out like gold.” (Job 23:10)**

4 It has been a full two years since we have been under the influence of the COVID 19. We can all attest to the  
5 difficulties experienced within our church communities. In fact, an analysis by the ABC data group showed  
6 that churches in the northeastern U.S. suffered the most considerable church attendance loss with 27%  
7 fewer people going to in-person services in October of 2021 compared to January of 2020. Additionally, in  
8 Greater New Jersey, we have experienced by a series of additional challenges in 2021; loss of beloved church  
9 members, financial challenges in GNJ, impact by the pending bankruptcy of the Boy Scouts America,  
10 Hurricane Ida, and so on.

11  
12 Ironically, we have noticed that the most impressive innovation of church communities happened during one  
13 of the most difficult times in modern Christian history. Churches resiliently rose above all the challenges and  
14 thrived with renewed strength. As written in Job, the cabinet believes that churches in Greater New Jersey  
15 Annual Conference will come out like gold after the tests.

16  
17 District Superintendents have witnessed congregations and pastors continue in Spirit-filled, creative, and life-  
18 giving work in and out of their community. In addition, many congregations, small and large, participate in  
19 feeding ministries and other missional opportunities far beyond the expectation, especially when considering  
20 the number of volunteers and resources.

21  
22 United Methodists in Greater New Jersey reinvented the way to be the church. Live streaming worship,  
23 hybrid worship, and zoom meetings will stay even after the pandemic. In addition, new technologies have  
24 shaped worship services and how we do ministry with global communities.

25  
26 As the GNJ community, we have continued to implement the Journey of Hope plan. Forty-six African  
27 Diaspora and Native American churches have been a part of the Journey of Hope forbearance program.  
28 Sixty-six qualifying congregations began receiving their decreased shared ministry apportionment and  
29 billables. The cabinet worked carefully in identifying churches to bring equity and justice. More than half of  
30 the Board and Agency chairs in GNJ are ethnic clergy and laity. Fearless Dialogue Inc. has been leading the  
31 training programs for many GNJ leaders as we strive toward engaging in the work of ending the sin of racism  
32 with 150 congregations. GNJ’s comprehensive and unwavering response to uproot deeply rooted racial  
33 injustice is a testament to the character of the Christian community of believers.

34  
35 The cabinet developed the redistricting plan last summer to strategically support clergy and congregations  
36 and adapt to the changing situation in the ministry setting. The redistricting plan was approved in the  
37 previous adjourned session of the annual conference. We have moved from nine districts and three regions  
38 to six districts and two regions. Metro Highlands Region has Skylands, Meadowlands, and Raritan Shore  
39 Districts. Coastal Plain Region has Central, Delaware Bay, and Cape Atlantic Districts. Two regional directors,  
40 circuit elders/leaders, and one regional administrator per region will make a regional team with three District  
41 Superintendents. Each District Superintendents will have an average of about 83 churches. Regional teams  
42 have been developing regional resources, strategic plans, and contextual approaches for revitalization.

43  
44 In 2021-2022, GNJ excelled in providing resources for clergy and congregational leaders. Leadership  
45 Academy was launched and virtually trained about 700 leaders in GNJ. Back to Basic training in the Coastal  
46 Plain region has reached 200 congregational leaders in 2021. Foundation training in Metro Highlands has  
47 trained 320 congregational leaders in 2022. The central and southern regions had a seminar supporting large  
48 church pastoral leaders in 2021. As a part of regional resourcing, GNJ has invited 150 leaders to participate in  
49 the Leadership Institute provided by the Church of the Resurrection. The Coastal Plain region has a retreat

1 for 40 clergy persons. This retreat focused on renewal, preaching, and fellowship. The Metro Highlands  
2 region offered six coaching sessions to 15 clergy members, provided by Rev. Olu Brown. Ongoing outward  
3 mindset training and coaching trainings have been offered to GNJ staff and circuit elders/leaders. The  
4 Pathway Resource for congregational development has started to support congregations as they navigate  
5 through the new normal circumstances and leading after the pandemic. Overall, during the pandemic, GNJ  
6 has offered a myriad of worship, programming, trainings, seminar, and missional resources to clergy and laity  
7 leaders in order to help congregations make disciples for Jesus Christ amidst our challenges.

8  
9 In September 2021, 23 churches were severely affected by Hurricane Ida. GNJ churches supported them with  
10 the labor of love as well as the grant of half a million dollars. Through connectionalism, we could support and  
11 build up each other in times of difficulty. When people hurt, United Methodist help. Thank you for stepping  
12 up with your prayers, presence, and gifts.

13  
14 Last December, United Methodist leaders reached a settlement in the matter of the Boy Scouts of America's  
15 (BSA) pending bankruptcy proceedings. Upon final court approval, the settlement would resolve any claims  
16 of sexual abuse that may have occurred in congregation-sponsored Scouting programs. In addition, under  
17 the terms of the settlement, United Methodists would raise and give \$30 million over three years into a fund  
18 utilized to compensate survivors for their healing. We are grateful for Bishop John Schol's leadership in  
19 leading this denominational challenge. GNJ District Superintendents also played a leading role nationally as  
20 we planned a model of holding special charge conferences that helped other annual conferences effectively,  
21 efficiently, and swiftly act on matters relating to the BSA.

22  
23 Finally, we celebrated Rev. Dr. Gina Hendrickson's seven-year term as District Superintendent of Northern  
24 Shore District and Rev. Gina Kim's five-year term as District Superintendent of Palisades District in May of  
25 2021. Farewell services for two strong and faithful pastors were joyful, life-giving, and inspirational. After  
26 eight years of caring and uplifting ministries, Rev. Brian Roberts from Cape Atlantic District will move on to  
27 the next phase of ministry. Also, we will welcome Rev. Jana Purkis-Brash as Superintendent of Cape Atlantic  
28 District. Her wisdom from rich ministerial experience and non-anxious presence will be great gifts to many,  
29 including the cabinet.

30  
31 We have been tested through a series of challenges, but we have renewed, reimagined, and refined  
32 ourselves. With God's mercy, we will come out as gold.

33  
34 Submitted by Sang Won Doh  
35

## 36 **Centenary Fund and Preachers Aid Society**

37  
38 The Centenary Fund and Preachers' Aid Society was established by charter granted in 1857. In 2000 the  
39 charter was amended to rename the corporation The Centenary Fund and Preachers' Aid Society of the  
40 Greater New Jersey Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church. The purpose of the Fund is to  
41 provide maximum income, consistent with the preservation of principal, for the support of retired clergy and  
42 surviving spouses and dependent children of deceased clergy who have served in the GNJ Annual  
43 Conference.

44  
45 A primary way the Fund meets that purpose today is by contributing towards the cost of providing retiree  
46 healthcare. In 2021 the amount contributed was \$770,000 and since 2004 the Fund has contributed  
47 approximately \$8 million for this purpose.  
48

1 The Fund also provides grants to pastors and their families with special needs who have requested aid,  
2 including help with extraordinary medical expenses, transportation needs and loans to assist retired pastors  
3 obtain housing in Methodist (and other) Homes, among other ways. Several such grants were made totaling  
4 just over \$35,000 since 2016. The Fund has only been able to do this through the generous support of clergy,  
5 laity, and churches, by means of annual contributions and periodic donations as well as bequests. Since  
6 inception the Fund has received more than \$6.3 million in donations. The Fund has set an annual goal of  
7 raising \$50,000 annually specifically to support retiree health care. The Fund's balance as of the end of 2021  
8 was \$13,444,000.

9  
10 We have also partnered with the Stewardship Foundation and the Communications Committee to raise our  
11 profile and increase our support. We hope you will help us build up the Centenary Fund with your tax-free  
12 donations so that The Centenary Fund and Preachers Aid Society will be able to continue the substantial  
13 contributions needed in the future to fund retiree healthcare and to provide aid to retired clergy and their  
14 dependents. Thank you so much for your support to date.

15  
16 Submitted by Jack Scharf  
17

## 18 **Christian Outreach Project A New Jersey Non-Profit Corporation**

19  
20 The Christian Outreach Project seeks to provide free home repairs and renovations for individuals in  
21 northwest New Jersey who do not have the means to pay. COP is celebrating our 40th year anniversary in  
22 the summer of 2022. Youth and adult supervisors donate their caring and skills while learning and growing in  
23 the process. For one week in June/July, teams from churches around the Greater New Jersey Annual  
24 Conference gather at the Camp Hoover Girl Scout Facility in Swartswood, NJ for a week spent in Christian  
25 fellowship providing home repairs during the day and participating in camp activities in the evening.  
26 Participants start each day with a time for reflection and prayer. After breakfast, they pack bag lunches and  
27 set out in work crews for job sites. While working on homes, many youth have the opportunity to interact  
28 and learn from their homeowners. After work, participants enjoy dinner provided by local churches and  
29 return to camp for evening activities, singing, and worship. During this time of COVID we are also offering the  
30 opportunity to participate as a day camp.

31  
32 In 2021, COP had a successful summer program. We had 41 participants from 8 area churches that were able  
33 to repair and renovate homes for 7 families in need in Morris & Sussex Counties during the last week of June.  
34 We are looking forward to, and planning for, our 2022 program.

35 COP is funded by cash and in-kind donations, fees paid by volunteer participants, and support from the  
36 United Methodist Church. COP is a Greater New Jersey Annual Conference Advance Special as well as A  
37 Future with Hope - Hope Center. The Christian Outreach Project is recognized by the IRS as a 501(c)(3)  
38 corporation. Donations are tax deductible as allowable by law. Federal Tax ID 26-1832341.

39  
40 Submitted by David Kihm  
41

## 42 **Discipleship, Board of**

43  
44 The goal of the Board of Discipleship of the Greater New Jersey Annual Conference is to help resource,  
45 support and affirm clergy, laity, and congregations in making disciples for Jesus Christ for the transformation  
46 of the world.  
47

1 This past year, as the pandemic continued, seemed even more challenging than the year before. With  
2 people feeling weary of restrictions and isolation it was difficult for us all on many different levels. However,  
3 the Church will persevere. Churches continued to find new and innovative ways to meet for worship, small  
4 groups, training, and fellowship. In a recent foundational training, we were told that if our churches ever  
5 fully open only 80% of those who were there before would return making our base for ministry still different  
6 and less than it was. The Rev. Dr. Jevon Caldwell-Gross shared with us that while “Sunday used to be “the”  
7 day for church, now it is “a” day.” We have to be creative and expand our thinking beyond the traditional  
8 Sunday morning.

9  
10 The Board of Discipleship met this year with GNJ’s new Director of Connectional Ministries, Eric Drew, to  
11 discuss ways the board can truly help churches in resourcing their congregations to make disciples of Jesus  
12 Christ for the transformation of the world. It is important that we share our successes and learn from one  
13 another. That is the beauty of the connectional church. Now more than ever we must seek out our  
14 colleagues, our sisters, and brothers to affirm and support all of the work we are doing throughout GNJ. If  
15 you have a great discipleship success story please share it with us. We want to celebrate you.

16  
17 Also keep in mind that the Board of Discipleship for GNJ honors people every year who are living,  
18 breathing sermons who by virtue of the way they live their lives and minister and evangelize to the world  
19 around them. Stay tuned for this year’s recipients of the Harry Denman Award for Evangelism in the  
20 categories of clergy, laity, and youth.

21  
22 I would like to take this opportunity to share my gratitude for the seven years I have served on the Board of  
23 Discipleship, with the last three as its Chair. It has been a blessing and an honor to serve the people of GNJ  
24 in this way. As I step away from the Board of Discipleship to serve in other capacities, I pray for each  
25 member so that they continue to think creatively to serve our churches and promote discipleship across  
26 Greater New Jersey in new and fun ways.

27  
28 Submitted by Debra A. De Vos  
29

## 30 **Drew University Theological School** 31

32 In spring and fall of 2021, Drew Theological School began returning to its Madison, New Jersey, campus for  
33 some classes, meetings, and worship. As with many churches, in person events were held in spaces equipped  
34 for live-streaming or Zoom participation. The shift to remote learning during COVID-19 pandemic thus  
35 significantly expanded our online course offerings and accessible community events. Now, a number of  
36 students in Drew’s masters’ programs will progress through their programs in U.S. and global locations far  
37 from New Jersey. This year, we welcomed 150 new students, again the largest class in a decade, and have a  
38 current enrollment of 376 students.

39  
40 Drew cultivates pastors, preachers, deacons, activists, teachers, and thought leaders who are taking their  
41 place as the next generation of faith leaders and change agents. Diversity is a hallmark of our student body,  
42 including theological, vocational, age, and especially racial and national diversity both international--Asian,  
43 African, and South American and U.S.--black, white, Latinx, and Asian American--students. Our student body  
44 is truly global, with 35% of students from 21 different countries. For the first time in its history, Drew has an  
45 African student association, initiated by Drew Theological School students from 14 African countries, that is  
46 already contributing richly to the Drew community both on campus and online. We have welcomed new  
47 faculty in Latinx ministries and world Christianity. We have also seen an increase in United Methodist  
48 students particularly interested in the school’s Gospel-inspired traditions of social justice advocacy and

1 widely inclusive ministry. We are proud that many United Methodist Global Fellows have recently chosen to  
2 continue their journey in ministry at Drew. Our UMC graduates are serving in Greater New Jersey, Eastern  
3 Pennsylvania, and New York conferences as well as conferences across the country.

4  
5 The faculty is committed to continuing to develop the curriculum in ways that take seriously the wide range  
6 of lived experience and calls to ministry of the students that gather in our global classrooms. All degree  
7 programs at the Theological School include interdisciplinary courses that demand out-of-the-box thinking,  
8 apprenticeship training that addresses real-world issues, and modes of learning that promote adaptability  
9 and innovation. Our MDiv and MATM degrees include a required gateway year, vocational pathways, and  
10 experiential learning that develops and deepens adaptive leadership skills. The curriculum features a team-  
11 designed and taught interdisciplinary sequence of core courses reflecting the integration of the theological  
12 disciplines and practices characteristic of the life of faith. The faculty have also articulated shared values that  
13 are infused across the teaching and learning at Drew: a commitment to anti-racism; gender and sexual-  
14 identity equality; eco-sustainability and environmental justice; and interfaith understanding and  
15 cooperation.

16  
17 Submitted by Melanie Johnson-DeBaufre  
18

## 19 **Equitable Compensation**

20  
21 The responsibilities for the Commission on Equitable Compensation as outlined in ¶1625.2 of the 2016 Book  
22 of Discipline are four-fold: 1) To recommend conference standards for pastoral support; 2) To administer  
23 funds used in base compensation supplementation; 3) To provide counsel and advisory material on pastoral  
24 support to district superintendents and committees on pastor-parish relations; and 4) submit an arrearage  
25 policy to be adopted by the annual conference.

26  
27 The Commission is developing guidelines and advisory material on pastoral support that will specifically  
28 address the commitments that have been made with the Journey of Hope legislation that was adopted by  
29 the annual conference. In that the Discipline charges the commission to make these grants and distribute  
30 them, we believe that this is the most effective means to address salary inequities across GNJ as quickly as  
31 possible while other issues of long-term sustainability can be addressed and put in place. The commission  
32 continues to work on resources that will guide the conversations of all SPRCs on salary setting at appropriate  
33 compensation levels that is not only commensurate with other pastors, but also with other professional  
34 persons within the community.

35  
36 The Parsonage Standards have been edited, and a couple of paragraphs added to address concerns that have  
37 arisen through the year. The first deals with electric cars, and the second around housing allowances. While  
38 the first is applicable to a very small number of pastors and congregations right now, we see that as  
39 environmental issues and creation care of addressed in our churches that this will come up more and more  
40 in the future. We are also working on a guide to help churches ascertain what would be a fair housing  
41 allowance amount. The wide range of housing costs and the various needs of clergy makes it difficult to  
42 develop a single piece of legislation that will be applicable across GNJ. These guidelines will be available  
43 along with the other resources for the SPRC with other Church Conference paperwork information.

44  
45 We want to lift up the importance for local churches to pay attention to their parsonages. Copies of the  
46 parsonage standards should be in the hands of the SPRC, the Board of Trustees, and, if applicable, the  
47 Parsonage Committee. They are posted with the Church Conference paperwork and are available for  
48 download at any time. The upkeep for the parsonage is not just for the benefit of the pastor. It is also a  
49 protection of the investment that the church has in one of its properties.

1 My thanks to the members of the Commission on Equitable Salary for their time and energy in our work  
2 together on behalf of United Methodists of Greater New Jersey. The realities of COVID-19 for both pastors  
3 and local churches along with a significant increase in the cost of living for 2022 has made our discernment  
4 challenging this year as we seek to balance the realities of both congregations and clergy, and I am grateful  
5 for the commitment that each Commission member has made to do our work thoughtfully and with  
6 excellence.

7  
8 Submitted by Steven G. Bechtold

9  
10 **Finance and Administration, Council on**

11  
12 We started 2021 facing continued challenges with respect to COVID and concern with respect to how  
13 smoothly our churches would return to normalcy. While we understand many of our congregations continue  
14 to face challenging and uncertain times, I am happy to report that the Conference’s financial situation has  
15 improved in 2021.

16  
17 This was possible because of the faithfulness of our Churches, the commitment and diligence of our staff and  
18 the thoughtfulness of our leadership.

19  
20 **Financial Report:**

21 We had an exceptional year in giving by our congregations because of the leadership of pastors and the  
22 generosity of our congregations. This is helping GNJ to fulfill its mission and strengthen its future finances.  
23 The following are the giving statistics for 2021 as compared to 2019 since 2020 data was skewed by COVID.

24  
25 A total of \$7.44M was given through shared ministries by our congregations. We had projected that we  
26 would receive \$7.06M; so we received 5.4% more than what we projected.

27 A total of \$11.35M was received for billings from our congregations. We had projected that we would  
28 receive \$10.99M; so we received 3.3% more than what we projected.

29 409 of our congregations gave 100% of shared ministry as compared to 364 in 2019.

30 431 of our congregations gave 100% of their billings as compared to 394 in 2019.

31 164 of our congregations contributed a higher percentage of their shared ministry and 97 congregations  
32 gave a higher percentage of their billings in 2021 than they did in 2019.

33  
34 All very encouraging and we are very grateful to our congregations.

35  
36 We also celebrate that our A Journey of Hope Plan actions to address inequities in shared ministry and  
37 billings in lower income communities was successful and was received well across the conference. We  
38 realized a higher percentage of shared ministry and billings with 13 (of 66) Journey of Hope congregations  
39 increasing the amount of Shared Ministry dollars given and 22 paying more in billings.

40  
41 With respect to General Church Apportionment payments, the Annual Conference voted that GNJ would  
42 passthrough whatever the churches paid toward GCFA apportionments. In 2021, GNJ paid 86.5% of the  
43 amounts apportioned for the seven GCFA funds. As previously decided, all funds received the same  
44 percentage of what was apportioned for the fund.

45  
46

1 Property sales in 2021 were above budget, with gross proceeds of \$7.1M and net proceeds totaling \$4.8M.  
2 Details:  
3 \$7.1M in property sales in 2021. (Budgeted at \$3.7 million).  
4 \$0.5M toward closing costs (legal fees, property transfer fees, etc.)  
5 \$1.8M toward maintenance prior to selling, past billables & initial investment in the case of conference  
6 owned property  
7 \$3.2M toward the 2021 budget as approved by Annual Conference  
8 \$1.6M toward designated funds as directed by Annual Conference which was \$ \$1.1 million more than  
9 projected.

10  
11 Hurricane Ida was a major catastrophe that hit New Jersey in early September. Many of our churches were  
12 dramatically hurt by this hurricane. Council of Finance and Administration (CFA) and Board of Trustees (BOT)  
13 felt that “connectionalism” means that we must help these churches at times when they face genuine need.  
14 It was also felt that it was very important to make sure that the proper steps were taken to ensure we are  
15 not in the same position when the next hurricane strikes. Where applicable, these churches are being  
16 encouraged to get flood insurance from FEMA and to also make their repairs in such a way as to be better  
17 protected from damage the next time around. In partnership with the BOT, as required by the GNJ  
18 Designated Fund Policy & Procedure, CFA approved an emergency use of funds of nearly \$440K to provide  
19 repair grants to our local congregations impacted by Hurricane Ida. These were funded by unused COVID  
20 grants from the 2021 operating budget; no designated funds were used.

21  
22 The first round of PPP loans, received in 2020, were forgiven for GNJ (\$980K) and our Mission Partners. In  
23 2021, GNJ and many of our churches benefited from the second round of PPP loans; GNJ received another  
24 \$955K. We recognize that without this funding in 2022, we might face additional challenges as we transition  
25 to a post COVID world.

26  
27 During 2021, members of the Board of Pension, CFA, BOT, Centenary Fund, the Cabinet, and Wespath  
28 reviewed and updated the financial model being used to manage funding the annuitant health care liability;  
29 they all agreed that GNJ has a realistic plan to fund the liability. The model was shared with the Annual  
30 Conference at the October 2021 Adjourned session.

31  
32 Lastly, as discussed at the January 26, 2022, information session, there has been a tentative settlement with  
33 respect to the BSA bankruptcy case. If the court approves the settlement plan, GNJ will make a \$910,420  
34 contribution to the Survivor Trust Fund - this being our share of UMC’s total \$30M contribution. It was a  
35 unanimous decision amongst various leaders in GNJ such as members of the BOT, the CFA, the  
36 Communications/Connectional Table, and our Superintendents to support the proposed commitment. The  
37 commitment is not just a financial commitment but also a healing, education and prevention commitment  
38 that seeks to remediate past wrongs and prevent future recurrences of the same. Following the “Emergency  
39 Use of Funds” protocol in the Designated Funds Policy & Procedures, both the BOT and CFA approved the  
40 use of funds on an emergency basis.

41  
42 **Non-Financial Report:**  
43 Below are some of the non-financial improvements/accomplishments at GNJ during the last year:

44  
45 **Boards:**  
46 We have implemented cross-representation with the Chairs of CFA, CBOPH and BOT attending all meetings  
47 of CFA, CBOPH and BOT.  
48 A GNJ Audit Committee has been formed with representation from the CFO, CFA, BOT and CBOPH as well as  
49 three non-CFA experts has been put in place. This committee interviewed and selected a new Audit Firm

1 (Tait Weller) to do our 2020 and 2021 Audits. As our previous auditor faced challenges completing the 2020  
2 audit, that work is unfortunately not completed. With the help of our new audit firm, we expect to get 2020  
3 completed and back on track to our normal cycle to complete 2021 by June 2022.

4 A GNJ Investment Committee has also been formed with three members from CFA and two non-CFA experts  
5 who have started the dialogue with Wespath on how best to fine tune our asset allocation.  
6

#### 7 **GNJ Financial Administration:**

8 Improved financial reports being provided to CFA and GNJ staff budget owners.

9 Consolidated budgets with all income and expenses of GNJ, not just shared ministry, are being provided.

10 Improved management reports showing budget vs. actual during the year.

11 Developing a cash flow report that will capture all sources/uses of cash.

12 Danielle Andrews has been promoted to Controller and a new accountant has been hired. With these  
13 changes, we implemented improved internal controls and documentation.

14 GNJ Financial Policies and Procedures have been fully re-drafted and will be finalized/implemented in 2022.  
15

16 Submitted by Vasanth Victor  
17

#### 18 **Global Ministries, Board of**

19  
20 The Conference Board of Global Ministries works with Missionaries, our Advance Specials, Agencies,  
21 Conference staff and it also aligns with the strategic goals of GNJAC.  
22

23 Advance Specials are required to submit a reapplication each year and provide supporting documentation.

24 The list of Advance specials may be found in the Board's resolution.  
25

26 The conference Board of Global Ministries shares responsibility on finding ways to encourage churches to  
27 support the Advance and Advance Specials. One of the goals of this committee for 2021 was to dedicate time  
28 to visit Advances Specials and help share their stories in the conference. This was hindered by the  
29 restrictions imposed by the COVID-19 pandemic. In addition, we did not host any missionaries during last  
30 year.  
31

32 During last year we participated in the monthly meeting of the NEJ Conference Secretary of Global Ministry  
33 (CSGM) and the Abundant Health Network meeting. In the Greater New Jersey Annual Conference, the  
34 position of CSGM is held by the Chair of the Board of Global Ministries as well.  
35

36 There is a unanimous interest from committee members to be more involved in communicating mission  
37 opportunities to youths and young adults in our Conference.  
38

#### 39 **Goals of the Committee**

40 Have GNJ churches know about Board of Global Ministries and the ways the Board can be of  
41 support.

- 42 • Leverage and maximize what we already have in place
- 43 • Support and host GNJ Missionaries
- 44 • Committee members visit GNJ churches to share the work and stories of transformation  
45 and encourage churches to support via the advance.
- 46 • Encourage churches to support the Advance and Advance Specials
- 47 • Visit Advances Specials and help share their stories in the conference  
48  
49

1 Isabel and the committee would like to visit churches to thank them for their support of UMC  
2 missionaries, share stories of transformation and impact, share why hosting missionaries is  
3 important, and give updates in other mission areas (including ways the church can increase their  
4 involvement in mission)

5 • A 1-pager of talking points needs to be developed so there is consistency across church  
6 visits, including what is involved with a church hosting a missionary.

7 Conference Advance Specials

8 • The Committee is responsible for reviewing Advance Special applications and recommending them  
9 for approval to the Annual Conference Session.

10 • The Committee would like to increase GNJ's support of The Advance

11 • The Committee would like to visit the Advance Specials

12 • The Committee is responsible for coordinating missionary visits to GNJ Churches and provision  
13 hospitality, including:

14 • Picking the missionary up from the airport

15 • Securing housing (cannot be at a hotel)

16 • Inviting churches to host the missionary

17

18 Isabel is typically given a months' notice, which has been challenging in securing churches to  
19 host the missionary. Some missionary visits to GNJ have been canceled due to the inability of  
20 churches to host.

21 • Isabel is going to ask for a list of the missionaries visiting GNJ and when they plan to visit  
22 so the committee can begin planning sooner and increase the number of church hosts.

23 • The committee is going to work on ways to increase the audience for missionaries who are  
24 sharing (district wide opportunities, etc.)

25

26 Other

27 • The Committee would like to find ways to involve youth and young adults in mission

28 • The Committee can promote Global Mission Fellows (as well as other mission

29 opportunities) via NextGen, Search, Campus Ministries

30 • Youth and Young Adult mission opportunities can be promoted at Ignite and AC (tabling)

31 • Clarity is needed regarding how missionaries or a program can become an Advance Special with

32 • Global Ministries

33 • Ashley will work with communications to but the process on the Board of Global

34 • Ministries webpage

35 • Isabel is going to provide the following to the committee

36 • Number of GNJ Missionaries and what churches are supporting them

37 • The Committee is interested in creating a video on the impact of hosting a missionary (sharing  
38 stories of transformation in both the missionaries work and in the lives of those who hear about it)

39 • Ashley will work with communications to highlight missionaries in the Relay

40 • The Committee is interested in sponsoring a Day of Mission across GNJ (perhaps could be done with  
41 district poverty task forces as well). There could be a variety of mission sites across GNJ for persons  
42 of all ages to engage on the same day. Potential sites include:

43 • Hope Centers

44 • Church Sites

45 • Environmental Sites

46 • Advocacy/Justice Sites

47

48 Submitted by Isabel R. Quezada

49

1 **First Friends of New Jersey and New York**

2  
3 Since its founding in 1997, First Friends of New Jersey and New York has upheld the inherent dignity and  
4 humanity of immigrants whose lives have been impacted by the immigration and enforcement system. We  
5 provide compassion and hope to immigrants through connections with volunteers dedicated to helping them  
6 survive detention, gain freedom, and rebuild their lives. Our vision is to have a society where immigrants are  
7 welcomed, valued, and empowered.

8  
9 **Helping Immigrants Survive Detention**

10 For those being detained, First Friends provides a free telephone hotline; volunteer visitors (in-person and  
11 remote; pen-pals; commissary funds and kits of stationery they can use to communicate with their families,  
12 attorneys, and pen pals.

13  
14 **Helping Immigrants Gain Freedom through Advocacy**

15 To help detainees obtain their freedom, First Friends advocates for releases, not transfers; the just closures  
16 of detention centers and community-based alternatives to detention. We also meet with legislators and  
17 educate the community about issues facing immigrants through the media, events (rallies, protests, vigils)  
18 and campaigns (petitions, letters, phone calls).

19  
20 **Helping Immigrants Rebuild Their Lives**

21 To help released detainees and other immigrants rebuild their lives, First Friends can provide financial  
22 support for bond payments; transportation; temporary housing; rent and utility assistance; cash assistance  
23 for food and clothing; legal referrals and accompaniment to court hearings.

24  
25 **First Friends Accomplishments in 2021**

26 In 2021, First Friends made 263 deposits in friends’ commissary accounts, allowing them to purchase masks,  
27 soap, and hand sanitizer to protect them from COVID-19. Over 250 “Stamp Out Despair” stationery kits to  
28 the detention centers so that friends were able to write to their attorneys, families, and First Friends pen-  
29 pals. First Friends posted bonds for 16 friends so they could be free while awaiting their immigration  
30 hearings. Upon their release, we provided 48 friends with transportation from the detention centers back to  
31 their families, and 11 friends with temporary housing. We also provided 39 friends with financial assistance  
32 for rent and utilities, and cash assistance to 45 families for food and other essentials.

33  
34 **GNJUMC and First Friends**

35 First Friends NJ/NY is an Advanced Special in GNJ, and as a Hope Center has strong partnerships with many  
36 United Methodist churches across the state. Morrow UMC in Maplewood began visiting immigrants held in  
37 detention nearly ten years ago and has assisted in training volunteer visitors, coordinating visits to detention  
38 centers, provided release support, collected donations, and has fundraised for the organization.

39  
40 Chatham UMC participates in our Stamp Out Despair program that provides writing materials and postage to  
41 detainees to stay in touch with friends and families which is especially important during this pandemic. The  
42 UMW in Palisades have donated funds and signed up for volunteer visitations. Sparta UMC, Sparta UMW,  
43 New Dover UMC have all contributed to First Friends either through donations or direct service to  
44 immigrants. First Friends NJ/NY has a strong presence throughout GNJ and is supported by many  
45 congregants in our conference. We are honored to be a recipient of 2021 and 2022 Community Outreach  
46 grants from the United Methodists of Greater New Jersey.

47  
48 Submitted by Giselle Holloway

49

1 **Higher Education and Ministries, Board of**

2  
3 *The Board of Higher Education and Ministries (BHEM) has mandates and responsibilities listed under ¶634 in*  
4 *The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church and is the leadership development agency of The*  
5 *United Methodist Church. “Its mission is preparing global leaders for a global church and the world. Every*  
6 *elder, deacon and licensed local pastor benefits from our training and candidacy programs. Many young*  
7 *adults find help in clarifying their vocation and God’s call on their lives through our leadership and*  
8 *discernment programs.” (gbhem.org)*

9  
10 *“UM Collegiate Ministries are the missional presence of The United Methodist Church on college and*  
11 *university campuses around the world. Through a network of chaplaincies, Wesley Foundations, ecumenical*  
12 *ministries and church-based ministries, The United Methodist Church reaches more than 1,300 campuses*  
13 *around the world!*

14  
15 *“We are called to share with our campuses the transformational nature of Christ in a way that raises up a*  
16 *new generation of thoughtful, articulate Christians who care about making the world a better place. While*  
17 *this calling looks and feels very different across our campuses, it is central to our identity, and it compels us to*  
18 *provide intentional, student-led ministries that reach this emerging generation of leaders.” (gbhem.org)*

19  
20 The Board of Higher Ed will continue to promote and award scholarships to GNJ students aspiring to attend  
21 Methodist colleges and universities to fulfill their call to mission and ministry in the areas of youth ministry,  
22 outreach, mission, service, and a call to pastoral leadership.

23 At the 2021 Greater New Jersey Annual Conference, conference members passed legislation that would  
24 make the Educational Society of Greater New Jersey a subcommittee of the Board of Higher Education and  
25 Ministry. We look forward to working together to assist GNJ students in achieving their academic goals to  
26 serve their communities better.

27  
28 This past year scholarship applications were processed online. The GNJ Connectional Ministries’  
29 administrator submitted the completed applications electronically to our agency. Because we are still  
30 working remotely following CDC guidelines due to COVID-19, board members met via Zoom to complete the  
31 process and award the scholarships. BHEM received 21 electronic scholarship applications. Eleven (11) GNJ  
32 students received between \$1,500 and \$2,500 for a total of \$24,200 in scholarships. The students who  
33 received scholarships submitted complete applications by the deadline. Five areas considered by the agency  
34 team are financial need (FASFA), grade point average (official school transcript), letters of reference, an  
35 essay from the student, and a mission and ministry statement describing the student’s service in ministry  
36 and outreach for a possible total of 25 points.

37  
38 BHEM encourages clergy and laity to nominate a person for the Francis Asbury Award every year. The  
39 Francis Asbury Award is a non-monetary award that recognizes those who encourage and support higher  
40 education and campus ministries within the United Methodist Church. All active clergy, layperson, employed  
41 or volunteer active in supporting, strengthening, and promoting higher education ministries may be  
42 nominated. This past year, the Francis Asbury Award recipient was Erik (Skitch) Matson.

43  
44 GNJ BHEM’s commitment is to continue to encourage new relationships with congregations and college  
45 campuses, especially with students who are active members of congregations pursuing careers inspired by  
46 mission and ministries and to those who have a personal call to ministry.

47  
48

1 Your continued prayers and support for our campuses, ministers, and chaplains, our faithful and dedicated  
2 board members, and our conference youth and leaders will be greatly appreciated!

3  
4 Submitted by Iraida Ruiz de Porras

## 5 6 **Journey of Hope**

7  
8 In October 2020, GNJ adopted a bold Journey of Hope Plan to commit to dismantling the sin of racism. This  
9 plan is pledging our commitment to work for a just, equitable and inclusive Church so that we can fully honor  
10 the humanity, racial identity, uniqueness, and sacred worth of every person – as we live out our baptismal  
11 vows. Despite the continuing COVID pandemic, and general challenges that arise with reviewing existing  
12 policy and procedures and creating new resources to combat system racism, GNJ has pushed forward and  
13 continues to make progress on this important work. In this report, please find our progress on the 5  
14 Keystone Measures and 10 Reporting Commitments of GNJ.

### 15 16 **5 Keystone Measures**

- 17  
18 • **50 trained GNJ trainers and facilitators who are actively engaged with 150 congregations that are**  
19 **developing and engaging in A Journey of Hope Plan by September 2022.** 122 conference leaders in  
20 GNJ, both clergy and laity, have attended the first foundational training offered by Fearless  
21 Dialogues. We are preparing for the 5-week immersive anti-racism training offered by Fearless  
22 Dialogues in Spring 2022 – only for those interested in serving as a JOH facilitator. We expect as  
23 many as 150 facilitators to be working with congregations by January 2023 as we are currently  
24 working on a JOH plan template and process to engage this work.
- 25  
26 • **At least 50% of GNJ agency chairpersons are People of Color by June 2023 and the number of**  
27 **African American/Black and Hispanic/Latino clergy elders are doubled, and the number of all**  
28 **Clergy of Color is increased by June 2025.** More than 50% of GNJ agency chairpersons are People of  
29 Color. Recruiting work continues with conference Nominations Committee and the Cabinet to  
30 remain equitable and just in the process of filling vacant conference committee positions.
- 31  
32 • **25 new ethnic congregations (at least 10 African American) by using new technologies and**  
33 **innovative strategies, and strengthening the worship, ministry, and finances of 10 existing**  
34 **congregations of color by December 2025.** Intentional conversations with project leaders are  
35 already underway during monthly meetings. Project leaders for this keystone measure are Rev.  
36 William Williams, Rev. Sang Won Doh and Rev. Glenn Conaway. Together with Rev. Enger Muteteke,  
37 Journey of Hope project champion, and Rev. Veronica Palmer, chair of conference committee on  
38 Ethnic Local Church concerns, project leaders met in February 2022 to begin planning a process to  
39 both identify current needs of congregations and ministry gaps to partner with existing  
40 congregations of color to strengthen their ministry.
- 41  
42 • **A handbook of all existing GNJ policies and procedures that have been reviewed and updated to**  
43 **ensure GNJ’s policies and procedures create a culture of racial justice, inclusion, and equity by**  
44 **February of 2022.** The goal date for the handbook of GNJ policies and procedures has been delayed  
45 but is in process. The new goal date for completion is May 2022.

- 1 • **\$4.1 million investment in the health and vitality of GNJ through debt forgiveness, equitable**  
2 **salary, and shared ministry apportionment and billables in low-income communities by December**  
3 **2023.** 66 qualifying congregations began receiving their decreased shared ministry apportionment  
4 and billables in July 2021. 46 congregations have entered the debt forbearance program.  
5

6 In addition to the Keystone Metrics, GNJ identified 10 items which the Staff Executive Team would report on  
7 each year. They are as follows:  
8

- 9 • **The number of congregations with A Journey of Hope Plan and highlight three exemplary plans.**  
10 The Journey of Hope Plan Guide will be completed after GNJ staff and leaders begin working with the  
11 consultant, Fearless Dialogues. They have been contracted and began work with GNJ staff in  
12 September 2021. We expect the guide to be complete in January 2023. After that time, we will begin  
13 to share the number of congregations with a plan and highlight exemplary plans.  
14
- 15 • **The number of African American clergy recruited and in process to be elders in GNJ.** Presently  
16 there are 10 active African American/Black clergy elders in GNJ with only two under 58 years of age.  
17 An additional two are candidates for ordination and 5 African American candidates for provisional  
18 membership at this time. There are 8 retired African American clergy members.  
19
- 20 • **The number of African American churches that are part of a congregational development cohort**  
21 **and are being resourced to grow congregational vitality.** The first congregational development  
22 cohort begins in October 2021 and we will report on their progress next year.  
23
- 24 • **The percent of congregations that have A Journey of Hope Plan and the overall progress that is**  
25 **being made.** Because the Journey of Hope Plan Guide has not been completed, 0 congregations  
26 currently have a Journey of Hope Plan. We expect to launch a pilot group of 15 churches in January  
27 2023.  
28
- 29 • **The number and amount of grants given to African American and other ethnic congregations.** As of  
30 February 23, 2022, 39 grants have been awarded to local churches and the total amount is \$251,500.  
31 20 grants, or 51.2%, have been given to African American churches, multiethnic churches, and  
32 churches of color.  
33
- 34 • **Progress on equitable salary where there is income disparity in GNJ communities and what steps**  
35 **were taken to address income disparity.** This is an area which needs additional work.  
36
- 37 • **The number of churches that are receiving half billable and half shared ministry.**  
38 66 Churches began receiving reductions in billables and shared ministries in July 2021.  
39
- 40 • **The number of Hope Centers and the percentage in ethnic communities.** Presently, GNJ has 26  
41 Hope Centers with 10 in and serving ethnic communities. 38% of our Hope Centers are in and serving  
42 ethnic communities.  
43
- 44 • **Progress on the lawsuit to desegregate New Jersey public schools.** In January 2020, the Court  
45 denied the State's motion to dismiss the case, instead allowing the matter to proceed to discovery.  
46 We have a pending motion, asking the Court to rule that the schools are unconstitutionally  
47 segregated, and ordering the State to propose a remedial plan. Discovery on that motion is currently  
48 scheduled to conclude at the end of September, at which point we plan to ask the Court to rule on  
49 the motion.

- **A census of the percentage of African American/Black, Asian, Hispanic/Latino and Native American congregations' vitality, as compared to Anglo congregations.** GNJ is in the process of building the process and system to be able to obtain this information.

Submitted by Enger Muteteke

## **Korean Ministry, Commission on**

Korean Caucus of the Greater New Jersey Annual Conference is an active commission of both pastors with Korean-heritage and the churches they serve. These churches are not limited to Korean United Methodist Churches as many Korean pastors are appointed to cross-cultural congregations. To equip and support pastors in effective and relevant areas of needs and places, Commission on Korean Ministry conducts large group meetings and events all year round and operates also in smaller committees: Korean Women Clergy, Korean Pastors Serving Cross-Culturally, and work hand-in-hand with Korean Churches Association, Drew Theological Schools Korean Students Association and the jurisdictional and national Korean Clergy Association of UMC.

We have a membership of over 130 active individual members serving churches and the conference to this day. And our main foundation as a commission is for the following:

1. Organize and host workshops and trainings for pastors and lay leaders serving both Korean congregations and more
2. Raise cultural competency
3. Establish resource development and annual training of laity in Korean UM churches and the conference

On a large-group scale and in smaller committees, our clergy members worked with laity and churches to pave through the pandemic years to persist and organize trainings for pastors preparing effective ministry, empowering congregation, educating clergy, laity and churches through online workshops and meetings. One of the most important conversations pastors host with fellow pastors is cultural competency as this sets a groundwork of mutuality, accountability and effectiveness in all involved in services and ministry. Cultural competency is a necessary awareness to nurture healthy churches and both the clergy and congregation must work together to make it happen. Therefore, we organize and host opportunities to raise this bar as much as possible.

Although the pandemic certainly challenged to host physical meets and interactions and some annual events were diverted to virtual meetings, our members did not slow down developing resources for churches or on the personal level. Churches with members of Korean Caucus and our subcommittees deliver messages of hope, versatility, and mission to raise multi-generational disciples of Jesus Christ.

Submitted by Hosuk Chung

1 **Laity, Board of**

2

3 *“Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the*  
4 *Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.”- Joshua 1:9, NIV*

5

6 Two years into the COVID 19 pandemic continues to challenge us, our churches, and our families. There were  
7 times we felt weak, afraid, anxious, and discouraged. However, Joshua 1:9 reminds us that God has always  
8 been with us and will continue to be with us through all the challenging times.

9

10 The Board of Laity adjusted its meeting monthly via zoom into a quarterly basis and continued the strategic  
11 conversation, planning, and in identifying ways to be an effective resource to all our lay leaders and laity in  
12 GNJ. We continue the visioning process together and finding different ways to enhance the participation  
13 and ministries of laity in GNJ.

14

15 The Board of Laity reaffirms its purpose, work, and goals for this quadrennium.

16

17 **The Purpose of the Board of Laity shall be:**

- 18 a. To foster an awareness of the role of the laity both within the local congregation, and through the
- 19 ministries in the home, workplace, community, and world in achieving the mission of the Church; to
- 20 develop and promote programs to cultivate an adequate understanding of the theological and
- 21 biblical basis for lay life and work among the members of the churches of the annual conference.
- 22 b. To develop and promote stewardship of time, talent, and possessions within the annual conference
- 23 in cooperation with the conference council on ministries or other appropriate conference bodies.
- 24 c. To provide for the training of laity and lay leaders in partnership with clergy through the Leadership
- 25 Academy to promote change and identify opportunities in mission with new ideas and methods to
- 26 reach more for Jesus Christ.
- 27 d. To provide support and direction for the ministry of the laity on the local, district, and annual
- 28 conference levels and to promote the observance of Laity Sunday.
- 29 e. To provide organization, direction, and support for the development of local churches.
- 30 -(Paragraph 631 of TBOD-UMC. #2)

31

32 **Important Work and Goals**

33 1. The Laity Board will review and ensure that lay representation at Annual Conference 2021-2024 is  
34 equal in membership in accordance with the GNJAC Rules of Order/ Book of Discipline. New  
35 Quadrennial “At--Large Members” will apply online and agree to be faithful to process as well as  
36 commit to attend Annual Conference and report back to local congregation.

37

38 2. The Leadership Academy will continue to work to create a culture of learning in which laity  
39 throughout the Annual Conference will have an opportunity to become engaged, equipped

40

41 and empowered to be **effective** partners with each other and their clergy partners to lead the church and  
42 reach the community as disciples of Jesus Christ.

43

44 3. The Laity Board will continue to celebrate the ministry of faithful laity with a format called “Lay  
45 Ministry Recognition.” This program recognizes a person or group that has been creative and  
46 innovative in transforming lives and making disciples of Jesus Christ. This is for the purpose of  
47 resource sharing and encouraging congregations in their ministries. The Laity Board will choose  
48 ministries from each district to be highlighted in April each year, at GNJUMC Mission and Resource  
49 Center. This program will be reviewed on a yearly basis.

- 1 4. The Laity Board will work with the Connectional Ministry Team and District Superintendents to  
2 ensure Christian leaders are offered vital and vibrant educational programs that develop  
3 a. Fruitful and transformational leaders  
4 b. Communication and interpersonal skills  
5 c. Passionate faith and biblical understanding  
6 d. 100 laity who make disciples who make disciples (Leadership 100)  
7 e. missional mindset that connects with the community  
8 f. Lay Servant ministries  
9
- 10 5. The Laity Board will work collaboratively with all boards, committees, agencies, and the conference  
11 leadership to support the strategic goals of GNJ and align its work to advance the A Journey of Hope  
12 plan and other areas of focus from GNJ’s strategic plan.  
13

14 As the conference lay leader, I continue to participate in meeting sessions with the Association of  
15 Conference Lay Leaders (ACLL) of Northeastern Jurisdiction. I have participated in the annual lay leader  
16 national gathering via zoom.  
17

18 Brothers and sisters in Christ, let us continue to bear witness for Christ to others and entrusting to God our  
19 work and ministries as laity. God provides strength, encouragement and will always be there along the way!  
20

21 Submitted by Judy Colorado  
22

## 23 **Miracles Everywhere**

24  
25 In 2018 GNJ embarked upon the God-sized vision captured in the Miracles Everywhere Campaign. With an  
26 initial goal of \$5.1M, we committed to local, regional, and global miracles, including:

- 27 - \$3,197,000 to cultivate the next generation of disciples
- 28 - \$1,000,000 to extend A Future With Hope
- 29 - \$250,000 to assist in hurricane recovery in the US
- 30 - \$250,000 to assist in hurricane recovery in Puerto Rico
- 31 - \$500,000 for a Hope Center in Tanzania
- 32 - \$1,000,000 for people and communities affected by the pandemic  
33

34 Through the generosity and leadership of local churches, we truly saw God working Miracles Everywhere!  
35 Together, we relaunched Summer Camp ministries and saw IGNITE grow 150%. Together, over 30 Hope  
36 Centers are transforming their communities across GNJ, including The Maker’s Place, food pantries and  
37 social service organizations. Together, we exceeded our goals for hurricane recovery and gave over \$1M to  
38 UMCOR. Together, we led 2 Local Pastor’s Schools in Tanzania, with over 300 participants. Together we  
39 invested in food insecurity and unemployed families during the COVID-19 pandemic.  
40  
41

1 As of December 30, 2021, the Miracles Everywhere Campaign concluded. Below is a table summarizing the  
 2 monies collected and distributed toward the goals above:  
 3

Campaign Goals	Campaign Goals	Total Raised	% of Goal
<b>Next Generation Ministries</b>	<b>3,197,000</b>	<b>2,255,017</b>	<b>71%</b>
<b>A Future with Hope</b>	<b>1,000,000</b>	<b>390,293</b>	<b>39%</b>
<b>Puerto Rico Disaster Recovery</b>	<b>250,000</b>	<b>379,687</b>	<b>152%</b>
<b>US Mainland Disaster Recovery</b>	<b>250,000</b>	<b>760,399</b>	<b>304%</b>
<b>Tanzania Project</b>	<b>500,000</b>	<b>137,267</b>	<b>27%</b>
<b>Cononavirus</b>	<b>1,000,000</b>	<b>142,900</b>	<b>14%</b>
<b>Totals</b>	<b>6,197,000</b>	<b>4,065,562</b>	<b>66%</b>

4  
 5 Thank you for your investment in the work of God locally, regionally, and globally. Together, we pray and  
 6 continue to be active participants in God’s work of bringing Miracles Everywhere.  
 7

8 Submitted by Rob Zuckerman  
 9

10 **Native American Ministries, Committee on**

11  
 12 The Committee on Native American Ministries (CoNAM) continues to advocate on issues important to the  
 13 Native American community. This year our focus has been on the tragedy of generational trauma which was  
 14 created in the mid-1800s by the removal of Indian children from their homes and "educating" them by  
 15 moving them hundreds of miles from their homes and families, silencing their language, cutting their hair,  
 16 removing their traditional clothing, etc. in hopes of taking the Indianness from their lives. Methodist  
 17 "schools", some 14-17 of them, participated in this process. We are asking for the Church to address this ugly  
 18 part of the history of our Church. Materials and presenters are available to provide more information on this  
 19 and other related topics. Advocacy for the Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, started last year,  
 20 continues to be supported and shared.  
 21

22 Please stay tuned for more information about the Northeast Jurisdictional CoNAM Conference which will be  
 23 hosted in New Jersey in October 2022. Finally, we continue to define the role of CoNAM and the  
 24 communities it serves in the implementation of the Journey of Hope.  
 25

26 Submitted by Cynthia Mosley  
 27

28 **New Jersey Council of Churches**

29  
 30 It is an honor to be able to report to you on this year's work of the New Jersey Council of Churches.  
 31

32 Of course, with the emergence of the pandemic, our priorities shifted somewhat to deal with that reality.  
 33

34 We made it a priority to educate our members regarding the facts surrounding vaccines. In that regard, we  
 35 held a symposium entitled "The Covid Vaccine: Dispelling The Myths" with Dr. Anthony Fauci. Hundreds of  
 36 people attended virtually.  
 37

1 We have been routinely disseminating information to our members regarding covid. The latest piece being  
2 "A Christian Response to the Covid Vaccine."  
3

4 We believe that we as the NJCC have a unique role in the pandemic to educate and inform.  
5 Another aspect of our ministry has been the situation at the Edna Mahan Correctional Facility. We formed a  
6 task force that was instrumental in the recommendation to close Edna Mahan and are now going to be  
7 involved in the next phase of choosing new options for incarcerated women.  
8

9 Finally, we continued with our broad-based social justice legislative ministry. We continue to speak to issues  
10 such as the Reparations Task Force, the NJ Green Amendment, the Fair Chance Housing Act and the  
11 expansion of assistance to low-income families.  
12

13 These are, indeed, challenging times. But with the help and support of our dedicated members and the grace  
14 of the Almighty we continue to make a difference.  
15

16 Submitted by Joan M. Diefenbach  
17

## 18 **Next Generation Ministries**

19

20 As many congregations have found, 2021 was a difficult year to grow ministry and programs. Next  
21 Generation Ministries continues to invest in its community of youth and young adults, youth leaders,  
22 pastors, campus ministers and more. It has been exciting to see how this budding community has connected  
23 regularly on Zoom to share, learn, and dream about what is next. There continues to be great passion across  
24 GNJ to raise up new generations of enthusiastic disciples of Jesus Christ who connect, grow, and lead in the  
25 church and community for the transformation of the world.  
26

27 While the community and relationships with local leaders continue to build and grow, programs were a  
28 challenge in 2021. Despite excellent planning work, with the rise in cases of the Delta variant, the IGNITE  
29 Conference was cancelled. There was limited engagement and involvement by volunteers, students, and  
30 families for summer camp programs at The Pinelands Center. In addition, the Cherry Hill school system  
31 cancelled their second year of programs at Pinelands, creating a budget shortfall and a "due-to" GNJ of  
32 \$80,000 for the year. With budget shortfalls, Next Gen downsized its staff, including its executive director  
33 and 2 full-time other staff members to begin 2022.  
34

35 Decreased program engagement, together with regrettable but necessary staff reductions, multiple critical  
36 maintenance projects, and the loss of significant revenue from rentals to area schools has led the Next Gen  
37 Board of Trustees to close the Pinelands Center for activities in 2022. During this time, we plan to look  
38 carefully at the facility, assess costs of needed upgrades, and evaluate future options for camping and retreat  
39 ministry in Greater New Jersey. Please contact us if you would like to learn more or get involved.  
40

41 Throughout these challenges, Next Gen has been in conversation with GNJ's Committee on Finance and  
42 Administration. CFA has been very supportive of Next Gen and often shared the importance of ministry with  
43 the next generation of disciples. Through our work together, we are presenting legislation which allows Next  
44 Gen to operate as a department of GNJ and continue with the Next Gen Board of Trustees oversight. This  
45 significantly simplifies the accounting and saves on organizational costs of running a nonprofit, including the  
46 audit, insurance, and other costs.  
47

48 While this has been a difficult time, many voices have emerged pointing to possibility and the great need to  
49 raise up young people as disciples of Jesus Christ. The business model for a sustainable nonprofit, as laid out

1 in the 2017 Next Generation Ministry 10 Year Strategic Plan, has not come to fruition. However, with the  
2 provided legislation and our collaboration with CFA, a clearer, more transparent picture of the program costs  
3 of IGNITE and Pinelands is emerging. We are planning a great IGNITE Conference 2022. We will create a  
4 responsible, sustainable plan for camping and retreat ministry. God still needs the next generation of  
5 disciples and GNJ is still passionate about this important work. We pray and discern what is next together.  
6

7 One other exciting development for Next Gen has been a volunteer leadership team and excellent work at  
8 the Dietz Property. Dietz is a 20-acre, lakefront property just minutes from the Main Camp at Aldersgate. The  
9 sale of the Main Camp continues to progress slowly with the state but will close in 2022.

10 Down the road at Dietz, there has been significant groundwork and improvement. The Dietz Retreats Team  
11 has been meeting regularly to plan day programs and events, as well as hosting tent camping. Dietz is a  
12 beautiful property which is ready to host church groups and dreams of providing great retreat opportunities  
13 in northern NJ.  
14

15 We ask for your prayers and engagement as we continue ministry in 2022. With the relaunch of IGNITE, we  
16 expect that the creative, powerful Spirit of God will continue to flow, creating additional opportunities for  
17 young people and passionate leaders. Thank you for your support and involvement!  
18

19 Submitted by Sam Perez, and Eric Drew  
20

## 21 Pension and Health Benefits, Board of

22  
23 The Greater New Jersey Conference Board of Pension and Health Benefits (the Board) is authorized by The  
24 Book of Discipline of the United Methodist Church to contribute to the support, relief, assistance and  
25 pensioning of clergy and their families, as well as other church workers and lay employees of the United  
26 Methodist Church.  
27

28 Working with Wespath Benefits and Investments, the Board endeavors to implement and interpret national  
29 and conference policy.  
30

### 31 Pension

#### 32 Pre-1982 Pension Plan

33 The 2022 Past Service Annuity Rate for pre-1982 annuitant payment is \$727 per year of pre-1982 service.  
34 The 2023 Past Service Annuity Rate for pre-1982 annuitant payment will be \$742. The pre-1982 pension  
35 program continues to be fully funded and in a strong position.  
36 CRSP/MPP and CPP  
37

38  
39 The General Conference's pension plan, Clergy Retirement Security Program (CRSP) is a hybrid of defined  
40 benefit and defined contribution approaches which took effect in 2007. For 2022 churches pay CRSP at 14%  
41 of clergy plan compensation and for the Comprehensive Protection Plan (CPP) at 3.4% of clergy's plan  
42 compensation, and UMLife Options at 2.2% of plan compensation for ½ time clergy.  
43

44 The 2012 General Conference enacted changes to the Clergy Retirement Security Program. Effective  
45 1/1/2014 for all contributions going forward, the CRSP Defined Benefit component was reduced from 1.25%  
46 of DAC to 1.0% of DAC. Under the CRSP Defined Contribution component, contributions were reduced from  
47 3% to 2% of clergy plan compensation and, in addition, match up to 1% of compensation if clergy contributes  
48 1% to UMPIP. Contributions previously made will not be affected by this change and benefits paid upon

1 retirement will be based on the previous formula for all benefits accrued prior to 1/1/2014. Any benefits  
2 accrued from that date forward is based on the new formula.

3  
4 Additionally, the General Conference changed the participation requirements from all clergy under  
5 appointment to only clergy under full time appointment. Clergy appointed to less-than-full-time (3/4 and  
6 1/2-time) are eligible based on the decision of the Annual Conference after approval of the Conference  
7 Board of Pension and Health Benefits. The Board has voted to include those clergy appointed to less-than-  
8 full-time (3/4 and 1/2 time) appointments in CRSP. For clergy appointed to 1/4-time appointments, a vote of  
9 the Board has made UMPIP available as a pension option for those clergy. Please contact Alexa Taylor,  
10 Insurance and Benefits Services Manager, for more information on this option. These changes require  
11 Annual Conference approval.

12  
13 The rates of remittance for the Clergy Retirement Security Program/Ministerial Pension Plan (CRSP/MPP)  
14 and Comprehensive Protection Plan (CPP) increased from last year's rates to 95% and 98% respectively. Ten  
15 percent of churches were unable to pay these bills on time. Below is a summary of 2021 remittances:  
16

Type	Remittances Rate	2021 Shortfall	# of Churches Paying < 100%	% of Churches Paying < 100%
CRSP/CPP	97.70%	\$76,847	44	10.21

17  
18 To maintain clergypersons' participation in CRSP/UMPIP and CPP/UMLife Options, the Greater New Jersey  
19 Conference fully pays delinquent church accounts using funds from the Reserve Account at Wespath Benefits  
20 and Investments. We are concerned that some churches are not fully meeting their obligations with the  
21 resulting decrease in the Reserve Account.

22  
23 By 2021 year-end the cumulative delinquent amount for years prior to 2021 for CRSP/MPP and CPP was a  
24 total of \$1,806,328, a decrease of \$1,113,672.

25  
26 We thank those churches that maintained faithful stewardship, paying 100% of their obligation. We also  
27 appreciate the continuing efforts of our district superintendents, Alexa Taylor, Insurance and Benefits  
28 Services Manager, to collect the past due balances.

29  
30 Pre-Retirement Seminar

31  
32 The Board sponsored a retirement education session which was held virtually via Zoom on March 3, 2022.  
33 The pre-retirement seminar focuses on those anticipating retirement within five years.

34  
35 Presentations by Robert Christophel, Frank O'Brien of Wespath Benefits and Investments. Special thanks go  
36 to Jennifer Cho for organizing this event. Thanks also to Alexa Taylor, Insurance and Benefits Services  
37 Manager, for assisting and providing support.

38  
39 Health Insurance

40  
41 For 2021, the Board introduced the HealthFlex Exchange medical plan sponsored by Wespath Benefits and  
42 Investments. The options consist of six medical plans, three dental and three vision plans. Also available  
43 through the HealthFlex Exchange are Flexible Spending Accounts (FSA) and Health Savings Accounts (HSA).

1 The medical provider network is Blue Cross/Blue Shield PPO; the pharmacy benefits are provided through  
2 OptumRx. Beginning 2022, the 2% of salary was eliminated and participants will now pay a portion of the  
3 cost of their plan depending on the coverage selection (i.e., the amount that exceeds the premium credit  
4 approved by The Board each year).

5  
6 For 2022, The Board has set the default medical plan as the C2000 with HRA funding. Selection of another  
7 tiered plan potentially provides an opportunity for excess premium credit that may be used for qualifying  
8 medical expenses (such as co-pays and deductibles). The excess premium credit is accessed through a  
9 MasterCard branded debit card, or via a reimbursement form.

10  
11 Beginning in 2015, Wespath no longer offers retiree health insurance. The Board implemented United  
12 HealthCare’s National Medicare Advantage PPO Plan which combines the participants’ Medicare A & B,  
13 supplemental coverage, and Part D prescription plan.

14  
15 Premiums and Remittances

16  
17 The following chart shows church premium rates in effect for 2022. These rates reflect a Cabinet- requested  
18 blended rate for all categories, which the Board has been moving toward for several years, so that health  
19 insurance premiums are not a factor in determining clergy appointments.

20

Health Insurance Premiums for 2022	
Employee	\$18,000
Employee & Child(ren)	\$18,000
Employee & Spouse	\$18,000
Employee & Family	\$18,000

21  
22 The Board thanks all churches that fully paid their health insurance premiums in 2021. Overall, churches paid  
23 98% of the total \$3,947,047 health insurance billings, an increase from the 2020 remittance rate of 95%. The  
24 2021 shortfall was approximately \$76,606 and the amount owed from years prior to 2021 is \$2,263,903.

25  
26 Churches failing to fully pay their premiums burden all churches and result in higher health insurance  
27 premiums for all. Thanks go to the Conference/BOPHB, CFO Robert Zuckerman, Benefits Assistant Veronika  
28 Varga, and the Cabinet for their continued efforts to collect health insurance arrearages.

29 The Board and the Conference staff have continued their efforts to ease the continued transitions in  
30 healthcare. The Health Insurance Guidelines included in these 2022 Conference Reports and  
31 Recommendations have been updated.

32  
33 Annuitant Health Care Liability

34  
35 As of the end of 2021, the Financial Accounting Standards Board FAS 158 liability for annuitant healthcare  
36 costs was \$56 million. However, with the 2022 changes made to the eligibility guidelines and health policy,  
37 the actuarial analysis indicates this liability will decline to \$37M. This liability is the estimated present value  
38 of the future costs of annuitant healthcare. The Annuitant Health Insurance Contingency Fund described  
39 below has been set up to address this large liability over time.

40

1    **Annuitant Health Insurance Contingency Fund**  
2

3    In 2002-2003 the Board, recognizing the growing magnitude of annuitant healthcare costs, together with the  
4    Centenary Fund, representatives of CFA, the Cabinet and the Association of Retired Ministers and Spouses  
5    (ARMS), developed a plan for a long-term Annuitant Health Insurance Contingency Fund that begins to offset  
6    the liability and ensure that retirees continue to enjoy conference-paid health insurance. The Fund was  
7    initiated by the 2003 GNJ Annual Conference and earmarked exclusively for healthcare costs for annuitants  
8    to cover higher premium costs expected in future years. The plan for the Fund involves a multi-year period  
9    during which excess pre-1982 retirement funds would be used to pay CRSP defined-benefit requirements  
10   and comparable funds from churches would be used to create a permanent retiree health fund. This is a  
11   critical initiative since it is clear that the Conference cannot continue to fund retiree health insurance on a  
12   cash basis out of the Conference Budget.

13  
14   As of December 31, 2021, the Annuitant Health Insurance Contingency Fund held a balance of \$3.4M after  
15   the re-balancing and net property proceeds (\$1.5M) deposited in accordance with the GNJ Designated Fund  
16   legislation passed at the October 2021 Adjourned Session of the Annual Conference. In 2021, \$770,000 of  
17   the premiums paid came from the Centenary Fund's annual contribution.

18  
19   During 2021, members of the Board of Pension and Health Benefits, Council of Finance & Administration,  
20   Board of Trustees, Centenary Fund, the Cabinet, and Wespeth reviewed and updated the financial model  
21   being used to manage funding the annuitant health care liability; they all agreed that GNJ has a realistic plan  
22   to fund the liability. The model was shared with the Annual Conference at the October 2021 Adjourned  
23   session.

24  
25   **The Board Itself**  
26

27   The Conference Board of Pension and Health Benefits endeavors to serve the Conference and the needs of  
28   those in ministry. There continues to be much to accomplish, especially in the challenging field of health  
29   insurance. Christ strengthens us to meet these challenges and we pray for the Holy Spirit to guide and  
30   inspire our actions.

31  
32   Current leadership is Rev. Jennifer Cho, Chair; Rev. Neill Tolboom, Vice Chair; Rev. Erica Munoz, Secretary  
33

34   Submitted by Jennifer Cho  
35

36   **Pension and Health Benefits, Board of, 2022 Health Insurance Guidelines**  
37

38   The mission of the Conference Health Insurance Plan (the Plan) is to provide primary health insurance  
39   coverage to full-time full, provisional, and associate ministerial members and full-time local pastors of the  
40   Annual Conference and to eligible full-time lay employees.

41  
42   The Plan provides secondary health insurance coverage for retirees who are receiving Medicare which  
43   requires both Medicare Parts A & B for coverage. For those who have retired early and are not yet eligible  
44   for Medicare, primary health insurance coverage is through the same plan as those in active ministry. The  
45   Plan is a non-vested current benefit for active and retired pastors and lay employees.  
46

1 **I. ELIGIBILITY**

2 **1. Clergy Eligibility:**

- 3 1) Active clergy under full-time Episcopal appointment to serve a local church including Elders, Deacons,  
4 Local Pastors, Associate Members, and Provisional Members  
5
- 6 2) Those under full-time appointment as district superintendents, clergy staff members of Conference  
7 councils and boards, treasurers, bishop’s assistants, or directors of parish development, general  
8 evangelists, and campus ministers for whom the Conference provides pension contribution to the Clergy  
9 Retirement Security Program (CRSP) who are:
- 10 ● a full elder or associate member (other than a missionary) (Book of Discipline ¶344.1a(1))
  - 11 ● or an ordained clergy person from another annual conference or another Methodist  
12 denomination (Book of Discipline ¶344.1a(1), ¶346.1)
  - 13 ● an ordained clergy person from another denomination if not covered by the group health plan of  
14 the denomination to which he/she belongs. (Book of Discipline ¶344.1a(1), ¶346.2)
- 15
- 16 3) Enrollment in the Active health insurance plan must be completed within 31 days of appointment  
17
- 18 4) Waiving coverage in the Plan - Contact the Benefits Assistant for required documents. Documents must  
19 be completed and returned within enrollment deadline periods
- 20 ● within 31 days of initial eligibility; or
  - 21 ● once per year during the Conference open enrollment period for the following January 1;  
22 or
  - 23 ● within 31 days of an open enrollment period for a spouse’s plan; beginning January 1,  
24 2016.
  - 25 ● see PREMIUM PAYMENT RESPONSIBILITY – ACTIVE for Waived Coverage Fees.
- 26
- 27 a) Participant must certify that:
- 28 ● The plan is through a former employment or a spouse’s current or former employment.  
29 Proof of such coverage is required.
  - 30 ● The plan is not a marketplace plan. Under these guidelines and marketplace rules, Full-  
31 time clergy are ineligible for any Premium Tax Credit.
- 32
- 33 b) Re-admittance to the plan is during any open enrollment period, or within 31 days of a Special  
34 Enrollment event (loss of other coverage, employment status change, divorce, death of a spouse, or  
35 gain a dependent).
- 36
- 37 5) Clergy in any category under Episcopal appointment to full-time service in an Extension Ministry  
38 [¶344.1a (3)(4); 344.1b; 344.1d; 331.1a, b; 326.1; 331.8; 346.1; 346.2], may enroll in the Plan within 31  
39 days of initial appointment. Late enrollments are permitted only during the Annual Election Period or in  
40 the case of a Special Enrollment event - loss of other coverage, employment status change, divorce,  
41 death of a spouse, or gain a dependent.
- 42
- 43 6) Part-time clergy in any category are not eligible for coverage through the Plan.
- 44

45 **2. Ministerial members who are placed on Medical Leave status by the Conference** shall continue  
46 enrollment in the Plan regardless of whether they are eligible for Medicare disability benefits. The  
47 Conference Plan remains primary until the participant becomes eligible for Medicare due to disability, at  
48 which time the Conference Plan becomes secondary to Medicare. Beginning January 1, 2016,  
49 participants obtaining Medicare due to disability, may choose to remain in the Active Health Plan as their

1 secondary insurance, or to enroll in the United Health Care Retiree Plan (Medicare Advantage Plan). The  
2 premiums for ministerial members on Conference Medical Leave (and their enrolled family) will be paid  
3 by the Conference with Conference Board of Pension and Health Benefits funds.  
4

5 **3. Clergy in Retired Status** may be in the Plan if they were under full-time appointment for 20 years and  
6 appointed full-time through the Conference for the last 10 years with annuity credit immediately prior to  
7 retiring; *provided, however, that:*  
8

9 (a) Clergy in retired status may also be in the plan if they retired on or before July 1, 2021 (provided that  
10 their participation shall be subject to the provisions of Part II and III below);  
11

12 (b) Clergy in retired status may also be in the plan (subject to the provisions of Part II and III below) if:  
13 i. they retired after July 1, 2021,  
14 ii. they were at least 62 years old as of July 1, 2021, and  
15 iii. they had at least 15 but less than 20 years of full-time appointment, *provided that*  
16 *Such retirees must pay such additional premiums or charges as may be established annually by*  
17 *the Board of Pensions and Health Benefits.*  
18

19 (c) Clergy in retired status may also be in the plan (subject to the provisions of Part II and III below) if:  
20 i. they retired after July 1, 2021,  
21 ii. they were at least 62 years old as of July 1, 2021,  
22 iii. they had at least 7 but less than 15 years service of full-time appointment; provided that  
23 *1. Such retirees must pay 100% of any and all fees, charges, premiums and other requirements for*  
24 *participation established by the Board of Pensions and Health Benefits; and*  
25 *2. Such retirees under this paragraph (c) also shall not receive any financial credit or contribution*  
26 *toward the cost of the Plan.*  
27

28 Retired participants and spouses age 65 and over are required to carry Medicare Part A and Part B  
29 in order to be eligible for Conference insurance in retirement. Monthly premium for Part A if any,  
30 and for Part B is a personal expense. A Retiree (and eligible dependents) not enrolling (waiving  
31 coverage) in the Plan at the time of retirement, or who left the plan as a retiree, may enroll during  
32 any open enrollment period, or within 31 days of a Special Enrollment event (including but not  
33 limited to voluntary or involuntary loss of coverage) (refer to Clergy Eligibility #1, subparagraph 1d).  
34 For dependent eligibility, see #5 under "Eligibility."  
35

36 **4. Any of the following lay persons** are eligible to enroll in the Plan upon application within 31 days of hire.  
37 Late enrollments are permitted only during the Annual Election Period as allowed by the Plan, or in the  
38 case of a Special Enrollment Event - loss of other coverage, employment status change, divorce, death of  
39 a spouse, or gain a dependent.  
40

41 (a) Lay employees of the Conference or any of its subsidiary agencies working a minimum of 1,560 hours  
42 annually (30 hrs. per week)  
43

44 (b) Full-time (minimum of 1,560 hours annually) lay employees of any church in the Conference that  
45 adopts the program, completes a Salary Paying Unit Sub-Adoption Agreement and whose church  
46 enrolls a minimum of 75% of its full-time lay employees  
47

48 (c) Retired lay employees of the Conference, local churches, Conference-affiliated UM institutions, the  
49 Episcopal office, units of the Conference whose lay employees are not on the Conference payroll and

1 the surviving spouse of such employees, may participate in the Plan provided they have received or  
2 will receive a UMPIP benefit from Wespath Benefits and Investments through their salary-paying  
3 unit and if they were employed full-time for 20 years and employed full-time through the  
4 Conference for the last 10 years with immediately prior to retiring *provided, however, that:*  
5

6 (d) Lay employees in retired status may also be in the plan if they retired on or before July 1, 2021  
7 (provided that their participation shall be subject to the provisions of Part II and III below);  
8

9 (e) Lay employees in retired status may also be in the plan (subject to the provisions of Part II and III  
10 below) if:

11 i. they retired after July 1, 2021,

12 ii. they were at least 62 years old as of July 1, 2021, and

13 iii. they had at least 15 but less than 20 years of full-time appointment; *provided that*  
14 *Such retirees must pay such additional premiums or charges as may be established annually by*  
15 *the Board of Pensions and Health Benefits.*

16 (f) Lay employees in retired status may also be in the plan (subject to the provisions of Part II and III  
17 below) if:

18 i. they retired after July 1, 2021,

19 ii. they were at least 62 years old as of July 1, 2021,

20 iii. they had at least 7 but less than 15 years service of full-time appointment, provided that

21 1. *Such retirees must pay 100% of any and all fees, charges, premiums and other requirements for*  
22 *participation established by the Board of Pensions and Health Benefits; and*

23 2. *Such retirees under this paragraph (c) also shall not receive any financial credit or contribution*  
24 *toward the cost of the Plan.*  
25

26 **5. Dependents eligible for coverage** in the Conference Plan are limited to the spouse, children who are  
27 qualified adult dependents, and children who are under age 26. Dependents may be added only during  
28 the Annual Election Period as allowed by the Plan, or in the case of a Special Enrollment event - loss of  
29 other coverage, employment status change, divorce, death of a spouse, or gain a dependent. If an  
30 annuitant marries (remarries), coverage of spouse and/or children may be available and premium for  
31 dependents is at the retiree's expense.  
32

## 33 **II. PREMIUM PAYMENT RESPONSIBILITY – ANNUITANTS**

34 The Conference Board of Pension and Health Benefits shall establish rates of premiums for the participants,  
35 based upon the premiums charged by the insurance carrier(s).

36 Unless it has already been stated above under Eligibility, the Conference shall pay the premiums for all  
37 eligible enrolled annuitants of the Conference, lay or ministerial, from appropriate funds.  
38

39 A. A Clergy person age 65 or older, becoming an annuitant after July 1, 2021, who has 20 full-time  
40 approved years with annuity credit in (CRSP), the Clergy Retirement Security Program (includes  
41 prior plans), with Wespath Benefits and Investments, shall receive health insurance coverage  
42 under the Plan. Monthly premium for Part A if any, and for Part B (both required) is a personal  
43 expense.  
44

45 1. Annuitants age 65 or older who retired on or before July 1, 2021 shall continue to pay  
46 and be responsible for a percentage designated by the Board for each year short of 20  
47 full-time years of service. The 2022 percentage will remain at 5%. The percentage will  
48 be reviewed annually by the Board.  
49

1 B. **A lay person age 65 or older**, who has received or will receive a UMPIP benefit after July 1, 2021,  
2 who has 20 full-time approved years of employment with participation in UMPIP, the United  
3 Methodist Personal Investment Plan (includes prior plan), of Wespath Benefits and Investments,  
4 shall receive health insurance coverage under the plan. Monthly premium for Part A if any, and  
5 for Part B (both required) is a personal expense.  
6

7 1. A lay retired participant aged 65 or older who retired on or before July 1, 2021, shall  
8 continue to pay and be responsible for a percentage designated by the Board for each  
9 year short of 20 years of full-time service. The 2022 percentage will remain at 5%. The  
10 percentage will be reviewed annually by the Board.  
11

12 C. The Active premium for an **annuitant under the age of 65 commencing benefits**

13 1. Eligible annuitants under the age of 65 who retired on or before July 1, 2021, shall  
14 continue to pay and be responsible for the annual fixed amount determined in the year  
15 of retirement until the annuitant reach age 65. Premium payment for those that have  
16 less than 20 years of full-time service shall continue to pay 5% for each year short of 20  
17 years of full-time service. Annuitants paying for the annual percentage for which they  
18 are short of 20 years of full-time service are subject to annual increase set by the Board  
19 of Pensions.  
20

21 2. Eligible annuitants under the age of 65 who retired after July 1, 2021, shall pay the  
22 amount equal to the actual plan premium rate set by Wespath Benefits and  
23 Investments until the annuitant reach age 65. The plan is subject to annual increases.  
24

25 3. Eligible annuitants who retired after July 1, 2021, *and*, as of July 1, 2021, were at least  
26 62 years old and had at least 15 but less than 20 years of full-time appointment, see  
27 Part I paragraph 3(b) or 4(e).

28 4. Eligible annuitants who retired after July 1, 2021, and, as of July 1, 2021, were at least  
29 62 years old with at least 7 of service but less than 15 years net credited service under  
30 full-time appointment, see Part I paragraph 3(c) or 4(f).  
31

32 D. **Extension Clergy serving approved Conference Advance Specials** in the geographic bounds of  
33 the Annual Conference who are not eligible to enroll in the Clergy Retirement Security Program  
34 (CRSP) will be credited, solely for the years appointed to that Advance Special, with actual years  
35 of appointment and service to the Conference, for the purpose of calculation of service year  
36 credits to determine allocation of pro-rated premium payment responsibility upon retirement.  
37

### 38 III. PREMIUM PAYMENT RESPONSIBILITY – PRE-ANNUITY RETIREES

39

40 The Conference Board of Pension and Health Benefits shall establish rates of premiums for the participants,  
41 based upon the premiums charged by the carrier.

42 For those who have retired early and are not collecting an annuity, the retired enrollee is responsible for the  
43 full Active premium payment until they reach annuity age.  
44

### 45 IV. PREMIUM PAYMENT RESPONSIBILITY – ACTIVE

46

47 The Conference Board of Pension and Health Benefits shall establish rates of premiums for the participants  
48 based upon the premiums charged by the carrier.

1 Unless it has already been stated above under Eligibility, the Conference shall pay the premiums for all  
2 enrolled active participants, lay or ministerial, from appropriate funds, except that:

3  
4 A. Each church shall pay the premium(s) or Waived Participation Fee(s) (which is equal to the  
5 blended premium) of each of its full-time appointed clergy (including clergy spouse and  
6 dependent children if enrolled) who are either a full, provisional, or associate member of the  
7 Conference or a local pastor.

8  
9 1. The salary paying unit shall also be responsible for remitting premium for its lay  
10 employees who are enrolled in the Plan.

11  
12 2. Plan participants are to pay the amount of their share of the premium in excess of the  
13 premium credit provided by the HealthFlex Exchange default plan selected by the  
14 BOPHB. The local church will deduct the funds from the participant's compensation and  
15 remit the participants' share to the Annual Conference on a monthly basis.

16  
17 B. Each eligible enrollee, whose fees are not paid as provided above, shall pay his or her own  
18 premiums either directly or with employer participation. In every case, the individual enrollee is  
19 responsible for seeing that payment of his or her own premium is made if the party with PRIME  
20 responsibility fails to make the payment.

21  
22 **V. CONTINUATION OF COVERAGE AFTER CERTAIN EVENTS**

23  
24 A. **Voluntary and Involuntary Termination** - If a person's participation in the Plan ceases due to  
25 voluntary or involuntary termination of Conference membership or employment or discharge or  
26 removal from the Annual Conference, Continuation Coverage for health insurance may be available  
27 through application to HealthFlex.

28 B. **Loss of Dependent Status** - If a dependent's participation in the Plan ceases due to divorce or to  
29 attaining the limiting age, Continuation Coverage may be available through application to HealthFlex.

30  
31 C. **Medical Leave** - See #2 under Eligibility.

32  
33 D. **Leave of Absence** (§353 and §354) - Clergy placed on voluntary leave of absence (personal, family,  
34 or transitional) or involuntary leave of absence may continue in the Plan for a period of twelve  
35 months, provided they pay the premiums. Continuation Coverage for up to an additional 12 months  
36 may be available through application to HealthFlex. Leave of absence is not an appointment, causes  
37 a break in appointment years, and does not accrue annuity credit towards health benefits in  
38 retirement.

39  
40 E. **Sabbatical Leave** (§351) Clergy placed on sabbatical leave may continue in the Plan for a period of  
41 twelve months, provided they pay the premiums. Continuation coverage may be available through  
42 application to HealthFlex. Sabbatical leave is not a break in appointment years for the purposes of  
43 health benefits in retirement.

44  
45 F. **Death** - Surviving spouses of clergy members are subject to the same rules (see Eligibility Guidelines  
46 #1 and 3) as the clergy member. Surviving spouses of lay employees of the Conference and District  
47 offices are subject to the same rules (see Eligibility Guideline #4 c) as the lay employee.

48  
49 G.

1 **VI. ADMINISTRATION**

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All concerns, issues, requests, etc., relating to premiums, benefits, coverage (including voluntary termination of coverage, additions, or deletions to policies) and benefits at retirement must be “in writing” from the Plan participant to be considered official. Such correspondence, concerns, or requests for changes in coverage must be sent to the Plan Administrator or his/her designated coordinator. Commitments or resolutions of issues must come in writing directly from the Plan Administrator or his/her designated coordinator.

9 The Benefits Officer and Administrator for the Conference Plan is the Chief Financial Officer/Conference  
10 Treasurer. The Benefits Officer shall be a member of the Conference Board of Pension and Health Benefits  
11 without a vote. He/she shall be responsible for promptly enrolling all eligible persons, for collecting all  
12 amounts due from churches, agencies or individuals for participation in the Plan, for arranging for their  
13 prompt deposit in a Conference account, for checking all billings from the Insurance Carrier to certify their  
14 completeness and accuracy and for making proper remittances on schedule for the Plan; and such Officer  
15 shall delete from the Plan any enrollee whose premium is not paid by the end of the month for which the  
16 premium is due. Termination is effective the first day of the month for which no payment has been received.

17  
18 Submitted by Jennifer Cho  
19

20 **Saint Paul School of Theology**

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Educating tomorrow's leaders by offering on-campus, online, and hybrid learning courses at a FLEXible schedule, Saint Paul School of Theology is a seminary of the United Methodist Church committed to the formation of people for innovative, creative ministry. Grounded in the academic study of faith and ministry, theology is practiced in a traditional classroom and a contextual curriculum.

27 As the global pandemic continues to bring challenges to our daily lives, Saint Paul School of Theology began  
28 the 2021-2022 academic year, again offering students an option to attend courses via Zoom or on-campus  
29 while maintaining safety protocols. Our weekly chapel service continues to be available online, allowing staff  
30 and students to come together as one institution where all are invited to create a sacred atmosphere from  
31 wherever they are. In addition to faculty and staff serving as chapel speakers, we were blessed to have  
32 alumni and special guest speakers Rev. Winter Hamilton of Manchester UMC, Rev. Delesslyn Kennebrew,  
33 Rev. Dr. Carol Cook Moore, and more. Chapel recordings are available on the Saint Paul YouTube channel for  
34 those who cannot join live.

35  
36 Saint Paul staff and faculty continue to contribute to the academy, church, and society. This year, we have  
37 had many faculty and staff changes. After many years of tremendous service to students and the Seminary,  
38 Dr. James Brandt and Dr. Hal Knight announced retirement plans effective at the end of the 2021-2022  
39 academic year. In addition, Dr. Jeanne Hoeft will step down from her role as Vice President of Academic  
40 Affairs and Dean at the end of the academic year but will continue as faculty. New additions to the Seminary  
41 family include Dr. Joshua Bartholomew, Assistant Professor of Ethics, Church, and Society; Dr. Tiffany Nagel  
42 Monroe, Executive Director of the Oklahoma Campus; and Rabbi Michael Zedek, Rabbi-in-Residence.

43  
44 The faculty of Saint Paul School of Theology maintains high standards of scholarship, research, publication,  
45 and engagement. Over the past year, their many activities and publications have been so numerous that  
46 space permits only the sharing of selected highlights.

- 47  
48 1. Dr. Nancy Howell, Professor of Theology and Philosophy of Religion and Oubri A. Poppele Professor  
49 of Health and Welfare Ministries, was re-elected to a second term on the Executive Committee of

1 the International Society for Science and Religion. She also had an article published in a South  
2 African journal. With more than a decade of service, she serves on the Broader Social Impacts  
3 Committee of the National Museum of Natural History at the Smithsonian.

- 4 2. Dr. Casey Sigmon, Assistant Professor of Preaching and Worship and Director of Contextual  
5 Education was invited to be a writer for "Lent Another Way," an e-course, with The Plural Guild and  
6 The Many, and she offered the convocation address for Colgate Rochester Crozer Divinity School in  
7 Fall 2021. She also applied for and received a grant from the Wabash Center for Teaching to support  
8 her project entitled: "Resisting the Plagiarized Pulpit: Helping Students and the Professor to Find  
9 trust their voice through Artistic Instructional Design."
- 10 3. This January, Dr. Joshua Bartholomew, Assistant Professor of Ethics, Church, and Society, was the  
11 guest speaker at a Kansas City event, "Black Theology and the Black Panthers: A Conversation with  
12 Dr. Joshua Bartholomew." In addition, he was recently interviewed by Climate Central for the article  
13 " 'A moral imperative': Monastic sisters in rural Midwest make faith-based case for climate action."  
14

15 Saint Paul welcomed 45 new students for the 2021-2022 academic year. New student enrollment for the Fall  
16 semester increased by 44% (34 new students), with an overall increase for the year of 73%. With the COVID-  
17 19 pandemic still in our midst, prospective students previewed the Saint Paul community and curriculum via  
18 online visits. Students joined in community worship, attended classes, and participated in online discussions  
19 with current students to discern if Saint Paul was indeed their choice for theological education. Enrollment  
20 remained strong for the Master of Divinity (MDiv) degree program with promising growth in our newly  
21 designed Master of Arts in Theological Studies (MATS) and Master of Arts in Christian Ministry (MACM)  
22 programs.  
23

24 In September, Saint Paul held the 2021 Harrington Lecture online featuring Dr. Eboo Patel. His lecture, "We  
25 Need to Build: Field Notes for Diverse Democracy," expanded knowledge and built skills, helping people  
26 become the kind of leaders our diverse democracy needs. In the Spring Semester, Saint Paul Evangelical  
27 Society, led by Dr. Hal Knight, hosted a forum given by Dr. Amos Yong, Professor of Theology and Mission,  
28 and Dean of the School of Mission and Theology at Fuller Theological Seminary, on "The Holy Spirit and  
29 People of other Faiths: Relational Christian Witness in the 2020s." Later in the semester, the Evangelical  
30 Society hosted a lecture featuring Dr. Joy Moore, Professor of Biblical Preaching and Vice-President for  
31 Academic Affairs and Academic Dean at Luther Seminary. And for the first time, on May 13, Saint Paul held a  
32 hybrid commencement celebration via Zoom, allowing graduates to come together from both the Kansas  
33 and Oklahoma Campuses with attendees viewing from around the country. We honored the 2022  
34 Distinguished Graduate Award Winner and Commencement Speaker Dr. Stan Copeland during the  
35 ceremony.  
36

37 For the 2021-2022 fiscal year, Saint Paul Course of Study (COS) School educated 228 individual students, 49  
38 of which were new students, with approximately 550 registrations and offering a total of 50 courses. Serving  
39 32 Conferences, including 94 Districts, 121 Full Time and 106 Part-Time Licensed Local Pastors comprised  
40 these registrations. Saint Paul Course of Study School welcomed new Regional Director Dr. Lucas Endicott.  
41 Dr. Endicott has been serving as Associate Director for the Office of Mission, Service, and Justice at the  
42 Missouri Annual Conference and lecturing at Central Methodist University. Due to the continuing pandemic,  
43 the school has continued its course offerings in both asynchronous and synchronous online formats. Utilizing  
44 this online format, we reached students in 24 states. Plans include an increase in the number of hybrid  
45 course offerings. This fiscal year has also ushered in the new ability of online registration completed by the  
46 student and access to their student account through Populi as used by Seminary students. All our students  
47 share the same benefits by integrating Course of Study School into Populi, making them a more integrated  
48 part of the Saint Paul experience.  
49

1 Saint Paul Board of Trustees added two new members to their ranks: Ms. Debra "Debbie" Buzard, Director of  
2 Outreach Ministry at First United Methodist Church of Kearney; and Rev. Martin "Tino" Herrera,  
3 Congregational Care Pastor at UM Church of the Resurrection. Through a Board initiative related to diversity  
4 and inclusion, the Saint Paul Board of Trustees has devoted a significant portion of the last year's meetings to  
5 church leaders with experience and expertise in creating more diverse and inclusive communities and  
6 organizations. Aiding Saint Paul's trustees in better understanding these issues, the Board hosted the Rev.  
7 Dr. Benjamin Boswell in April 2021. Dr. Boswell, Senior Pastor of Myers Park Baptist Church in Charlotte,  
8 North Carolina, described the anti-racism work he has led in that community. The City of Charlotte awarded  
9 Dr. Boswell its Martin Luther King, Jr. Medallion for his work.

10  
11 In July 2021, Congressman Emanuel Cleaver II of Kansas City shared his perspective on the racial and social  
12 justice issues confronting our nation and the efforts he and his colleagues in the House of Representatives  
13 hope to undertake in response. With the Board's assistance, led by Board Chair Rev. Dr. Tex Sample, the  
14 seminary focuses on its mission. Our trustees continuously enhance and evaluate the strategic plans to guide  
15 us into the future.

16  
17 As we have happily reported in years past, Saint Paul is financially sound and operates with a balanced  
18 budget. These last years' changes have established a solid financial foundation for years of sustainability. As  
19 always, we continue to be grateful for donations from the community that provide technology, scholarships,  
20 and evolving academic programs to students. Our significant investments in technology have allowed us to  
21 maintain a hybrid educational delivery model providing a safe learning environment during the continuing  
22 pandemic.

23  
24 Our aim has always been to utilize technology as a conduit to bring faculty and students together regardless  
25 of whether they are on-campus or joining remotely through Zoom. We took a hard look at the distance  
26 learning landscape during the pandemic to see how we could substantially enhance the classroom  
27 experience. After significant testing, we opted to replace our distance-learning classroom technology with  
28 Neat's offerings, including technology still in development. All our classrooms began upgrades in Fall 2021  
29 with offerings from Neat. Each smaller classroom added a 65" neat.Board, a self-contained screen that  
30 functions as a full Zoom room, as well as an electronic whiteboard. Anything written or drawn on these  
31 boards is transmitted through Zoom to the screens in the classroom and remote Zoom participants. This  
32 content can also be saved and emailed to all participants. We implemented neat. Bars in other classrooms  
33 that connect to our classrooms' existing screens.

34  
35 We are currently implementing neat. Bar pros, just released at the end of 2021, in each of our large  
36 classrooms. At Saint Paul School of Theology, we have always tried to be pioneers with distance-learning  
37 technologies. We are very early in the lifecycle of this stimulating and groundbreaking technology. We are  
38 thrilled to partner with Neat and Zoom in revolutionizing the classroom experience.

39  
40 Saint Paul School of Theology is blessed to be your partner in ministry and help those seeking to discover  
41 more and answer the call. We are grateful for your support of our students and our seminary. May we  
42 continue to live into the call of Jesus Christ to be faithful witnesses for healing in these unsettled times and  
43 for generations to come.

44  
45 Submitted by Neil Blair

46

1 **Trustees, Board of**

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3 The board of trustees follows all disciplinary requirements when disposing property and may use any or all of  
4 the following.

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1. A licensed realtor.
2. Multiple Listing Service (MLS).
3. Contacting interested parties or churches in the area.
4. Contacting developers in the area.
5. Contacts made with the property staff
6. A price set in consultation with the realtor and approved by the board of trustees.
7. When a sale price is offered lower than the asking price, final sale price is approved by the board of trustees.

When a property is sold to another United Methodist Church, or an individual or organization affiliated with GNJ, an appraisal is developed using comparable properties in the area to set a price that will maximize income for the mission and ministry of the conference except in some cases when the property is sold or donated to another United Methodist Church. When a sale is made or the property donated, all disciplinary mandates are followed, and the trustees review the sale to ensure that the sale or donation is in the best interest of the GNJ mission.

The following schedules are included in the pages following this report:

- 2021 GNJ Schedule of Properties Sold listing the details of the property sold during 2021, including how the net proceeds were invested in accordance with the budget and GNG Designated Fund policy and procedure.
- Report of Current Holdings as of 1/11/22 listing properties currently available for sale, problematic properties (challenging to sell), rentals and other.

In other business, the Trustees:

- In consultation with our insurance brokers Sovereign Insurance Group, the Board of Trustees voted to continue to use Church Mutual Insurance for the group insurance program which includes property, management liability (Directors & Officers), workers compensation and umbrella policies.
- In partnership with the Council of Finance and Administration as required by the GNJ Designated Fund Policy & Procedure, approved an emergency use of funds of nearly \$440K to provide repair grants to our local congregations impacted by Hurricane Ida. These were funded by unused COVID grants from the 2021 operating budget; no designated funds were used.
- Along with leadership across GNJ, were kept informed and made decisions related the Boy Scouts of America sexual abuse cases and other legal matters impacting GNJ or it's congregations.

Submitted by Mathew Enzler

1 Trustees, Board of, 2021 GNJ Schedule of Properties Sold

2021 GNJ Schedule of Properties Sold								
Property Name	Gross Sales Price	Net Proceeds (HUD)	Due to GNJ (1)	Net Cash	CMA Average (2)	Listing Price	Buyer's name	Buyer's relationship with GNJ
Conference Parsonage : 58 Windsor Dr- Eatontown	525,700	489,659	(412,678)	76,981	500,000	500,000	Stroffolino	N/A
Billingsport UMC : 516 N Delaware- Paulsboro	200,000	182,050	(43,307)	138,743	249,000	249,900	The Chance Center	N/A
Lucaston UMC : 774 Asbourne Ave- Lindenwold	55,000	49,815	(1,393)	48,422	65,000	59,900	SHRY Laxminary Temple	N/A
2180 CenterSquare- Sweedsboro-Logan Twp	50,000	35,378	(74,782)	(39,405)	75,000	99,000	Highway of Holiness Church	N/A
118 Main St, Port Republic- St Paul's	265,000	244,458	-	244,458	285,000	350,000	Port Republic Church	N/A
202 Brookville Rd, Barnegat- Brookville UMC	5,000	4,980	(6,816)	(1,836)	N/A	N/A	Brookville Church Inc.	Brookville UMC members
225 Dwight St- JC- Bethany Browne Memorial UMC	1,155,000	1,073,738	(87,656)	986,082	900,000	975,000	Dwigh st 225 LLC	N/A
7117 Ventnor Ave- Ventnor City-Ventnor Trinity	1,600,000	1,518,804	(95,020)	1,423,784	1,200,000	1,200,000	Piraino Builders, LLC	N/A
260 Erial, Pine Hill NJ - Memorial UMC	325,000	301,038	(4,711)	296,327	325,000	349,900	Iglesia Cristiana El Poder Dios	N/A
7 N Melbourne Ave-Ventnor City Parsonage( Ventnor Trinity)	425,000	400,050	-	400,050	400,000	450,000	Glenn Smyth	N/A
101 W Sylvania Ave, Neptune- Memorial UMC	690,000	648,221	(6,297)	641,924	650,000	748,000	Bethel Church Apostalistic Jesus Christ	N/A
37 Palomino Circle, Mantua - Gateway South Parsonage	562,000	521,779	(418,579)	103,200	525,000	540,000	Lisa Garnett	N/A
Linvale UMC, Ringoes NJ	110,000	102,960	(39,088)	63,872	140,000	150,000	373 LLC	N/A
Siloam UMC- 67 Siloam rd, Freehold NJ	380,000	350,977	(1,154)	349,823	385,000	405,000	St Mary of Egypt	N/A
138 Highland, River Vale NJ - Parsonage	722,000	679,394	(601,431)	77,963	775,000	775,000	Melissa Nicole, Gregory Giardino	N/A
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 7,069,700</b>	<b>\$ 6,603,299</b>	<b>\$ (1,792,911)</b>	<b>\$ 4,810,388</b>				
2021 Operating Budget Cash Usage				\$ 3,182,000				
Net Cash Invested				\$ 1,628,388				
Investment allocation per 2021 budget:							Budgeted Investment	
Retiree Health Fund		92%	\$ 1,498,117	\$ 493,240			\$ 536,130	
Harvest Mission Fund		2%	\$ 32,568	\$ 10,723				
Strategic Disciple Making Fund		2%	\$ 32,568	\$ 10,723				
Property Operational Reserve		2%	\$ 32,568	\$ 10,723				
Property Redevelopment Fund		2%	\$ 32,568	\$ 10,723				

(1) Due to GNJ - past due billings, maintenance/repair work completed and/or initial investment (in conference purchased parsonages/buildings)  
 (2) CMA - Competitive Market Analysis completed by a licensed realtor.

2  
 3  
 4 Submitted by Mathew Enzler  
 5

1 Trustees, Board of, Report of Current Holdings

2

**Board of Trustees  
Report of Current Holding as of 1/11/2021**

<b>AVAILABLE PROPERTIES</b>					
<b>Church Name</b>	<b>Address</b>	<b>County</b>	<b>Realtor</b>	<b>Listing Price</b>	<b>Notes</b>
Wesley UMC	670 Centre St Trenton NJ	Mercer	John Brito KW	\$495,000	Negotiating an offer
Mt Fern UMC	443 Quaker Church Rd Randolph NJ	Morris	John Brito KW	\$3,500,000	Temporarily removing listing pending reverter clause investigation
Elm UMC	625 White Horse Pike Hammonton NJ	Atlantic	Bryan Vurgason 609-828-4397	\$50,000	
Embury UMC	140 Haddon Ave Collinswood	Camden	Bryan Vurgason 609-828-4397	\$460,000	
Glendale UMC	615 Haddonfield Berlin Road Voorhees	Camden	Pat McKenna Realtors	\$264,000 Reduced price	Under contract for \$260,000
<b>UNDER CONTRACT</b>					
Emely's Hill	69 Emely's Hill Road Upper Freehold	Monmouth County	Valerie Vargas- KW 917-217-0599	\$550,000	Tentatively under contract for \$450,000 However, title issues may force reduction; under review
Verga UMC	1391 Crown Point Rd West Deptford	Gloucester	Bryan Vurgason 609-828-4397	\$185,000	Under contract for \$185,000
Dunellen UMC	150 Dunellen Ave Dunellen NJ	Middlesex	John Brito KW	\$2,000,000	Under contract for \$1,425,000
Eldred UMC- NY	8-12 Eldred-Yulan Road Eldred NY	Sullivan	Dawne Payne 845-649-1720	\$49,000	Under contract for \$50,000

3

4

**Board of Trustees  
Report of Current Holding as of 1/11/2021**

<b>Properties with one or more issues</b>					
<b>Church Name</b>	<b>Address</b>	<b>County</b>	<b>Realtor</b>	<b>Listing Price</b>	<b>Notes</b>
House in Mansfield	267 Main St. Port Murray	Warren			Associated with McCrea Church that has sold / property has a reverter clause
Wrightstown cemetery					In the process of researching if GNJ does own this cemetery. Church was sold Jan 18, 2019
Land in Roxbury	6 Oneida Roxbury	Morris			Property has no value
1 <sup>st</sup> Salem	152 Yorke Street Salem NJ	Salem			Property has no value

<b>Rentals</b>					
<b>Church Name</b>	<b>Address</b>	<b>County</b>	<b>Realtor</b>	<b>Listing Price</b>	<b>Notes</b>
Woodruff UMC	4 E Finley Rd Bridgeton NJ	Cumberland	Rented to Victory Assembly of God		\$1,500/ month plus utilities We need to replace the heater (major expense)
Ewan UMC	325 Ewan Road Ewan	Gloucester			Started at \$1,200 and now \$800 because of Covid.
Embury UMC	1 Wayne Terrace Collinswood	Camden	Greater Collingswood Children's Center	Another Pastor wants to rent sanctuary on Sundays??	Preschool paying \$1,000/month all utilities and care of property

**Board of Trustees  
Report of Current Holding as of 1/11/2021**

**Other Conference Properties:**

- I. District Parsonages:
  - Cape Atlantic
  - Capital
  - Raritan Valley
  - Gateway North
  - Northern Shore – temporary, month-to-month rental to CFO
  
- II. MRC Building
  - Working on parking lot repairs
  
- III. Other properties
  - Center Grove UMC – was closed at May 2021’s Annual Conference, building in challenging condition with next steps TBD
  - Belmar Parsonage – sale to Bishop and Beverly Schol in progress as per agreement

2 Submitted by Mathew Enzler

3

4 **United Methodist Men**

5

6 *Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of God the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor are yours*  
7 *Almighty Father God for ever and ever.*

8

9 *In the name of God; the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit, Amen.*

10 The purpose of U M Men is to make the disciples for our Lord Jesus Christ. It is not a maintenance group or a  
11 breakfast club. It is the best tool clergy can use for evangelism. Each local Church must have a U M Men unit.

12 **WHY?**

- 13 1. The Book of Discipline says.
- 14 2. God wants it. God said, *“As iron sharpens iron, so a man sharpens the countenance of his friend.*  
15 *Proverb 27:17, (NKJV).*
- 16 3. Then the LORD God called to Adam and said to him, *“Where are you?”* Genesis 3:9.

17

18 **Goals for GNJ UMM:**

- 19 1. (Paragraph 647, page 429, Article 5.), Election for Conference UM Men under the supervision of  
20 Conference Lay Leader and N. E. Jurisdiction U M Men President to elect:
  - 21 a. a) President, b) V. P. c) G. Secretary, and a Recording Secretary (male or female), d)  
22 Treasurer, e) Prayer Advocate, f) Hunger Advocate, g) Scouting coordinator, h) E.M.S. (Every  
23 Man Shares through Evangelism, Mission, and Spiritual Life) Coordinator + (Stewardship), i)  
24 Nursing Home, and j) Prison Ministry.
  - 25 b. All leaders will be under age 25 to 50. They will attend a weekend retreat for training.  
26 General Commission on U M Men Nashville and Northeast Jurisdiction leaders will train  
27 them.

- 1 2. After election, appoint 2 volunteer positions for retired and experienced male or female Clergy or  
2 professionals:
  - 3 a. Marriage Counselor: domestic abuse and divorce prevention.
  - 4 b. Youth: drug, alcohol, suicide Prevention Counselor.
  - 5 c. They will be the members of our U M Men Executive Committee.
- 6 3. United Methodist Men Constitution and By-laws to review and adopt, for conference, district, and  
7 local U M Men units, (The book of Discipline).
- 8 4. Each month, work with the Communications Team of GNJ to include information from UMM in the  
9 Digest and Relay so that information is shared with our congregations and leaders.
- 10 5. My dream is to arrange in our Ocean Grove Auditorium (God willing), Spring 2024 or 2025 U M Men  
11 joint gathering with U M Women and U M Youth. To show all other 57 Annual Conferences in our U S  
12 that we all are one family in Christ Jesus.
- 13 6. For UM Men to reflect the diversity present in GNJ.t.

14  
15 \*If your Church has a U M Men unit, please charter with GCUMM, Nashville.

16  
17 If not, please call me, I will be happy to help you and guide you to start in your local Church.

18  
19 Glory be only to You Lord, All Praise, Honor, Glory, and Majesty belong to You Glorious Heavenly Creator  
20 God, through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

21  
22 May Lord our God Jesus Christ, bless and prosper God's ministry of U M Men Abundantly at home and all-  
23 around the world so more men will come and follow God and God only, Amen.

24  
25 Submitted by Sugandh S. Salvi

## 26 27 **United Methodist Stewardship Foundation**

28  
29 In January 2021 the investment balance of the Foundation totaled over \$53 MM. This was a milestone for  
30 the Stewardship Foundation. By the end of 2021 a new milestone had been reached as the Foundation  
31 crossed the \$60 MM mark. As of year-end Wespath's performance for the Multiple Asset Fund (Wespath's  
32 flagship fund) was at 8%. We have had several new accounts opened this past year and have resourced  
33 churches in Stewardship education and Planned Giving.

### 34 35 **Services for Churches & Related Organizations**

- 36 ● Socially Sustainable Investment Management Services
- 37 ● Donor Advised Funds
- 38 ● Planned Giving Resources (Including Legacy (Estate) Planning Seminars
- 39 ● Stewardship Education & Resources
- 40 ● Capital Campaign Services

### 41 42 **For Clergy**

- 43 ● Stewardship Education & Resources
- 44 ● Coaching

45  
46 We are grateful to be a partner in ministry with GNJ and its churches and look forward to serving alongside  
47 you as we journey through 2022 and beyond. No matter the course of The United Methodist Church, our  
48 Foundation is strategically aligned to continue our ministry with all churches and ministry organizations in

1 the Wesleyan tradition. Our mission to help faithful people live generous lives is unwavering even during  
2 these uncertain times for our church.

3 Vision: To enable individuals, congregations and Conference mission organizations experience the joy of  
4 generosity and facilitate the generation of increased financial resources to make new disciples, provide  
5 inspiring worship opportunities, grow faith groups, and engage disciples in mission to the community.  
6

7 Mission: The Foundation enables disciple making, increased congregational vitality and community mission  
8 engagement by assisting congregations and mission organizations grow their financial assets by providing  
9 stewardship resourcing and investment opportunities.  
10

11 The Foundation Board of Trustees monitors and establishes policies for the operation of the Foundation;  
12 supports the work of the Foundation with their time, and expertise, and encourages the ministry and mission  
13 of the Foundation as representatives in their churches, districts, and annual conference.  
14

15 Officers of the Board of Trustees: President – Virginia Harriett (Laity), Secretary – David Montanye (Clergy),  
16 Treasurer – Rob Zuckerman (Conference Staff)  
17

18 Board Members: Jie Hayes (Laity), Marlin Townes (Laity), James Ryoo (Clergy)  
19

20 Brief History: Created in 1992 by action of the 135th Session of the Northern Annual Conference, with the  
21 first investment made by the Conference. In 2000, became the UMF of Greater NJ after the merger of the  
22 Southern and Northern Conferences.  
23

24 Wespath Investment Management became the Investment Manager in August 2015. As of the end of 2017,  
25 the amount of investment in the foundation was \$44.3 MM.  
26

27 Developments in 2021: The focus of the Foundation is three-fold – to increase conference wide fund raising  
28 especially by providing planned giving opportunities; to resource congregations encouraging commitment to  
29 a 12-month Stewardship Plan; to provide socially sustainable investment opportunities for congregations  
30 and conference mission organizations.  
31

32 Submitted by Jana Purkis-Brash  
33

## 34 **United Methodist Women**

35

36 The vision of United Methodist Women (UMW) is to turn faith, hope and love into action on behalf of  
37 women, children, and youth around the world. This quadrennium, United Methodist Women will continue  
38 our focus on climate justice and mass incarceration and the criminalization of communities of color. These  
39 emphases may be seen in our spring and fall meeting topics, Mission u classes, and our Charter for Racial  
40 Justice conversations.  
41

42 We started off 2021 with training for the new way of doing things in this pandemic environment. “Expand  
43 Your Spirit, Expand Your Role Knowledge, Expand Your Zoom-Ability” addressed these needs, especially for  
44 newly elected officers.  
45

46 The spring meeting on April 25th was held virtually with a brand-new format. Instead of separate district  
47 gatherings, many on the same day but all around the state, over 100 of us met together on Zoom. After our  
48 opening worship and keynote speaker, we went into breakout rooms by district. The Rev. Luana Cook Scott,  
49 Pastor at Morristown United Methodist Church, spoke on “Nevertheless, She Persisted: UMW Called to Be

1 Like the Persistent Widow in the Work of Environmental Justice,” based on Luke 18:1-8. The offering was  
2 divided between the Camden Neighborhood Center and GreenFaith.  
3 The fall meeting on October 16 was entitled “Equity in Voting.” Our speaker was The Rev. Liz Theoharis, co-  
4 chair with the Rev. William J. Barber II of the Poor People's Campaign. She is also the director of the Kairos  
5 Center at Union Theological Seminary. We also heard from Toni Zimmer of the League of Women Voters and  
6 Joyce Pratt, president of an EEO/HR consulting firm, who raised three issues that could affect the ability to  
7 vote: school segregation, redistricting/redlining/gerrymandering, and our debt ceiling. The offering was  
8 divided between the Poor People’s Campaign and our Pledge to Mission.

9  
10 The popular Charter for Racial Justice conversation series continued in the fall with three sessions entitled  
11 “Know Your Neighbors:” Ruby Kish and two other Muslim women shared their varied backgrounds, with a  
12 “Focus on Muslim Experiences Post 9/11;” Susan Kim on “Focus on Asian American & Pacific Islander (AAPI)  
13 Experiences;” and Cynthia Mosley on “Focus on Indigenous Peoples Experiences,” with UMW Connectional  
14 Officer Sung-ok Lee urging us to action.

15  
16 The Intersectional Peace with Justice Legislation presented in May to the Annual Conference by the  
17 Leadership Team of United Methodist Women passed by a vote of 464-19. The resolution calls for  
18 commitments to education, respectful healing conversations and inclusive communities that respect the  
19 dignity and sacred worth of all God’s children.

20  
21 Mission u and its Regional School training sessions were again held on Zoom. In this second virtual year, we  
22 expanded the offerings to two courses: “Bearing Witness in the Kin-dom” and “Pushout: The Criminalization  
23 of Black Girls in Schools.” These classes were offered in both the 3-day and 1-day schools. There was a one-  
24 day Korean school as well.

25  
26 Our Spiritual Enrichment Advisor Barbara Miller, assisted by Membership Chair Holly Cyrus, led three virtual  
27 micro-retreats last year, each less than an hour in length. There was a guided meditation, a song and prayer,  
28 and an embodied prayer, in a series called “Take a Break with Jesus.” This corresponds with studies finding  
29 that “soul care” is needed by many women, especially during these trying times.

30 We are pleased to report that we met our Pledge to Mission, despite the pandemic and virtual meetings.  
31 However, due to redistricting, we have not yet been able to budget accurately for 2022. We held several  
32 meetings to reorganize in our new districts. We have requested help from our District Superintendents in  
33 obtaining lists and spreadsheets for this immense task. Using this information, we will be contacting the  
34 churches for which we currently have no UMW representative. This is time for a “new thing” and a  
35 wonderful opportunity to reach out to all women in all churches. Isaiah 43:19 encourages us that God is  
36 moving among us and through us to deliver this new thing.

37  
38 A “new thing” is also being birthed by the National organization of United Methodist Women. An article in  
39 *Response Magazine*, Jan/Feb 2022, reports making changes to our bylaws to ensure women can continue to  
40 be a part of United Methodist Women even if their local church leaves the denomination. providing a  
41 national membership option and creating new initiatives like Soul Care. “We are united in faith, stepping  
42 forward and daring to transform ourselves and the world.”

43  
44 Submitted by Susan Zahorbenski  
45  
46  
47

1 **United Theological Seminary (Dayton, OH)**

2

3 For the past 150 years, United Theological Seminary has educated men and women for Christian ministry  
4 within the historic traditions of the United Brethren, Evangelical United Brethren and United Methodist  
5 churches. On October 11, 1871, United Theological Seminary, then Union Biblical Seminary, held its first  
6 classes in Dayton, Ohio. From a starting class of 11 students, the seminary has grown to 488 students in its  
7 most recent academic year,\* representing 39 denominations, 11 countries, and 39 states. Today’s seminary  
8 serves a diverse student body that is 53% African American.\*\*

9

10 On October 10, 2021, the seminary celebrated its 150th anniversary and burned the mortgage on its current  
11 campus facilities, freeing up \$400,000 annually to support student scholarships.

12

13 In 2021, United received a grant of \$1 million from Lilly Endowment Inc.’s Pathways for Tomorrow Initiative  
14 to expand the seminary’s Houses of Study, which offer specialized master’s tracks to equip students for the  
15 unique ministry needs of the communities, movements and denominations they serve. The seminary has  
16 introduced six Houses of Study, currently enrolling for 2022-23:

17

- 18 • Fresh Expressions, directed by Dr. Michael Beck;
- 19 • Mosaix, in partnership with Mosaix Global Network and directed by Rev. Chip Freed;
- 20 • Black United Methodist, directed by Dr. Vance Ross;
- 21 • Hispanic, 100% in Spanish for Spanish-speaking leaders, directed by Dr. Jorge Ochoa;
- 22 • Global Pentecostal, directed by Dr. Mark Chironna;
- 23 • and Global Wesleyan, directed by Rev. Gregory Stover.

24

25 Because United believes so passionately in this initiative, the seminary has dedicated additional resources to  
26 offer half-tuition scholarships for inaugural students in its Houses of Study programs.

27

28 United also introduced the Academic Dean’s Scholarship, which provides 50% tuition for the duration of a  
29 master’s degree program, and the Presidential Scholarship, awarding up to \$5,000 per year to new students.

30

31 In honor of United’s 150th anniversary year, a generous donor gifted \$2 million to help graduating students  
32 reduce their educational debt. Each graduate in the 2021-22 academic year will receive up to \$20,000  
33 toward student debt from theological and previous academic studies.

34

35 As United looks forward to the next 150 years with gratitude and anticipation, the seminary remains  
36 committed to the preparation of faithful and fruitful Christian leaders to make disciples of Jesus Christ.

37

38 Submitted by Dr. Kent Millard

39

40 \* Student data represent 2020-2021 headcount enrollment.

41 \*\* Figure represents those who responded.

42

43 **Young Adult Ministry, Council on**

44

45 The Council on Young Adult Ministry champions young adult ministries at the local church, district, and  
46 annual conference levels. We strategically partner with other conference agencies and NextGen Ministries to  
47 benefit the young adults of the Greater New Jersey Conference by encouraging their spiritual development  
48 and developing their leadership skills. And as per the Discipline, we also advocate for the free expression of  
49 the convictions of young adults on issues vital to them (Para. 650, 3b).

1 As I conclude my term as chair of this council, I am grateful for partners in ministry. This council works with  
2 the Council on Youth Ministries, The Board of Higher Education and Ministries, the Board of Laity, and Next  
3 Generation Ministries. I thank members and chairs of these groups for maintaining connection and keeping  
4 young adults in mind as we work and move forward together through challenging times.

5  
6 With the cancelling of Ignite again this year YA's Ignite Squad was sidelined once more. But through the  
7 efforts of NextGen ministries Ignite Communities are forming in all areas of the Conference and involving the  
8 participation of young adults. And despite college campuses wavering back and forth between in-person and  
9 remote learning, at least three campus ministries continue to operate in GNJ.

10  
11 Hopefully, the Council on Young Adult Ministry will continue to partner with NextGen Ministries as well as  
12 other boards and councils to encourage and facilitate young adult involvement in the work of local churches,  
13 in campus ministries, and in the forming of Ignite Communities.

14  
15 Submitted by Blair Goold

16  
17



United Methodist  
Communities

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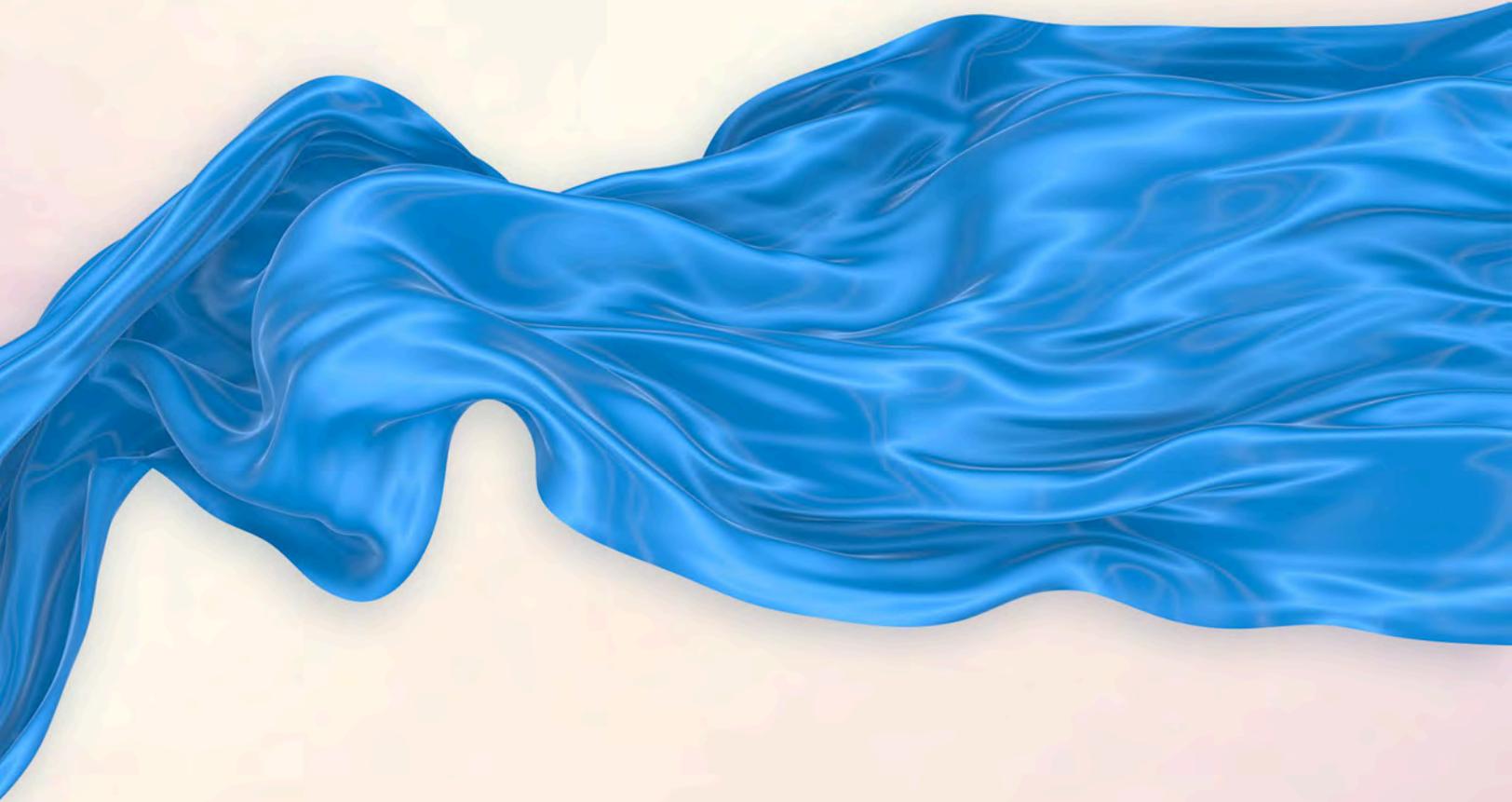


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