

**2004 GENERAL CONFERENCE  
The United Methodist Church**

**Proposed Constitutional Amendment – I**

On May 3, 2004, at a session of the General Conference of The United Methodist Church held in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, the following Constitutional Amendment was made by a recorded vote of 812 Yes, 72 No. It is now presented to the Annual Conferences for vote.

In the 2000 *Book of Discipline*, Division II, Section II, ¶12.2, *Article I*, (2004 *Book of Discipline*, Division II, Section II, ¶13.2, *Article I*) amend by substitution as follows:

Delete ¶12.2, which reads, “Delegates shall be elected by the annual conferences except that delegates may be elected by other autonomous Methodist churches if and when the General Conference shall approve concordats with such other autonomous Methodist churches for the mutual election and seating of delegates in each other’s highest legislative conferences.” In its place, substitute, “Delegates shall be elected in a fair and open process by the annual conferences. Delegates may be elected by other autonomous Methodist churches if and when the General Conference shall approve concordats with such other autonomous Methodist churches for the mutual election and seating of delegates in each other’s legislative conferences.”

If voted and so declared by the Council of Bishops, ¶12.2 (¶13.2) would read:

Delegates shall be elected in a fair and open process by the annual conferences. Delegates may be elected by other autonomous Methodist churches if and when the General Conference shall approve concordats with such other autonomous Methodist churches for the mutual election and seating of delegates in each other’s legislative conferences.

**Proposed Constitutional Amendment – II**

On May 3, 2004, at a session of the General Conference of The United Methodist Church held in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, the following Constitutional Amendment was made by a recorded vote of 876 Yes, 20 No. It is now presented to the Annual Conferences for vote.

In the 2000 *Book of Discipline*, Division Two, Section II, ¶15.2, *Article IV*, (2004 *Book of Discipline*, Division Two, Section II, ¶16.2, *Article IV*) amend by deletion and addition, as follows:

Delete “and” before “deaconesses” and add “and home missionaries” at end of sentence.

If voted and so declared by the Council of Bishops, ¶15.2 (¶16.2) would read:

To define and fix the powers and duties of elders, deacons, supply preachers, local preachers, exhorters, deaconesses, and home missionaries.

### **Proposed Constitutional Amendment – III**

On May 3, 2004, at a session of the General Conference of The United Methodist Church held in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, the following Constitutional Amendment was made by a recorded vote of 873 Yes, 31 No. It is now presented to the Annual Conferences for vote.

In the 2000 *Book of Discipline*, Division Two, Section IV, ¶25.4, *Article V*, (2004 *Book of Discipline*, Division Two, Section IV, ¶27.4, *Article V*) amend by deletion, as follows:

Delete “and provided further that this provision shall not apply to annual conferences of the former Evangelical United Brethren Church during the first three quadrenniums after union.”

If voted and so declared by the Council of Bishops, ¶25.4 (¶27.4) would read:

To determine the boundaries of their annual conferences; *provided* that there shall be no annual conference with a membership of fewer than fifty clergy in full connection, except by the consent of the General Conference.

### **Proposed Constitutional Amendment – IV**

On May 3, 2004, at a session of the General Conference of The United Methodist Church held in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, the following Constitutional Amendment was made by a recorded vote of 851 Yes, 60 No. It is now presented to the Annual Conferences for vote.

In the 2000 *Book of Discipline*, Division Two, Section VI, ¶30, *Article I*, (2004 *Book of Discipline*, Division Two, Section VI, ¶32, *Article I*) amend by addition as follows:

Add “Conference Secretary of Global Ministries (if lay),” after “district lay leaders” in the first sentence.

AND

### **Proposed Constitutional Amendment – V**

On May 3, 2004, at a session of the General Conference of The United Methodist Church held in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, the following Constitutional Amendment was

made by a recorded vote of 864 Yes, 34 No. It is now presented to the Annual Conferences for vote.

In the 2000 *Book of Discipline*, Division Two, Section VI, ¶30, *Article I*, (2004 *Book of Discipline*, Division Two, Section VI, ¶32, *Article I*) amend by addition as follows:

Add “and home missionaries” after “the active deaconesses” in the first sentence.

AND

**Proposed Constitutional Amendment – VI**

On May 3, 2004, at a session of the General Conference of The United Methodist Church held in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, the following Constitutional Amendment was made by a recorded vote of 832 Yes, 51 No. It is now presented to the Annual Conferences for vote.

In the 2000 *Book of Discipline*, Division Two, Section VI, ¶30, *Article I*, (2004 *Book of Discipline*, Division Two, Section VI, ¶32, *Article I*) amend by addition as follows:

Add “the conference director of Lay Speaking Ministries” after “district lay leaders” in the first sentence.

AND

**Proposed Constitutional Amendment – VII**

On May 3, 2004, at a session of the General Conference of The United Methodist Church held in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, the following Constitutional Amendment was made by a recorded vote of 877 Yes, 19 No. It is now presented to the Annual Conferences for vote.

In the 2000 *Book of Discipline*, Division Two, Section VI, ¶30, *Article I*, (2004 *Book of Discipline*, Division Two, Section VI, ¶32, *Article I*) amend by deletion and addition as follows:

Add “and lay” between “clergy” and “members” in first sentence.

Delete “as defined by the General Conference, together with” after “clergy and lay members” in first sentence.

Place a period after “clergy and lay members” in first sentence. Insert the following immediately after the first sentence: “The clergy membership shall consist of deacons and elders in full connection, probationary members, associate members, and local pastors under appointment. The lay membership shall consist of”

If voted and so declared by the Council of Bishops, ¶30 (¶32) would read:

The annual conference shall be composed of clergy and lay members. The clergy membership shall consist of deacons and elders in full connection, probationary members,

associate members, and local pastors under appointment. The lay membership shall consist of professing members elected by each charge, the diaconal ministers, the active deaconesses and home missionaries under episcopal appointment within the bounds of the annual conference, the conference president of United Methodist Women, the conference president of United Methodist Men, the conference lay leader, district lay leaders, the conference director of Lay Speaking Ministries, Conference Secretary of Global Ministries (if lay), the president or equivalent officer of the conference young adult organization, the president of the conference youth organization, the chair of the annual conference college student organization, and one young person between the ages of twelve (12) and seventeen (17) and one young person between the ages of eighteen (18) and thirty (30) from each district to be selected in such a manner as may be determined by the annual conference. In the annual conferences of the central conferences, the four-year participation and the two-year membership requirements may be waived by the annual conference for young persons under thirty (30) years of age. Such persons must be professing members of The United Methodist Church and active participants at the time of election. Each charge served by more than one clergy shall be entitled to as many lay members as there are clergy members. The lay members shall have been for the two years next preceding their election members of The United Methodist Church and shall have been active participants in The United Methodist Church for at least four years next preceding their election.

If the lay membership shall number less than the clergy members of the annual conference, the annual conference shall, by its own formula, provide for the election of additional lay members to equalize lay and clergy membership of the annual conference.

### **Proposed Constitutional Amendment – VIII**

On May 7, 2004, at a session of the General Conference of The United Methodist Church held in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, the following Constitutional Amendment was made by a recorded vote of 806 Yes, 32 No. It is now presented to the Annual Conferences for vote.

In the 2000 *Book of Discipline*, Division Five, ¶57, Article I, (2004 *Book of Discipline*, Division Five, ¶59, Article I) amend by addition.

Add a new second paragraph as follows, "In the event that the General Conference adopts an amendment to the Constitution, the General Conference may immediately adopt enabling legislation for such amendment which shall be contingent on ratification of the amendment by the required two-thirds affirmative vote of the aggregate number of members of the several annual conferences present and voting, and effective once the Council of Bishops, operating as a canvasser of votes, announces that the amendment has been passed. In the same manner, an annual conference may approve legislation in anticipation of such a change in the Discipline and/or Constitution that would likewise become effective upon the effective date of said Disciplinary Change or Constitutional Amendment.