

New Part VI
ORGANIZATION AND ADMINISTRATION

Chapter One
THE LOCAL CHURCH

<p style="text-align: center;">GBOD new Part VI, chap. 1</p> <p style="text-align: center;">As published in ADCA</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">GBOD new Part VI, chap. 1</p> <p style="text-align: center;">With tracking changes to BOD 2016: additions <u>underlined</u> and deletions struck through. With references to BOD 2016 Part VI, e.g. [201]</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Comments</p>
<p><i>Section I. The Church and Pastoral Charge</i> ¶ 201. <i>Definition of a Local Church</i>—The Local Church is a community of true believers under the Lordship of Christ. It is the redemptive fellowship in which the Word of God is preached by persons divinely called and the sacraments are duly administered according to Christ’s own appointment. Under the discipline of the Holy Spirit, the church exists for the worship of God, the edification of believers, and the redemption of the world. >VII: —< GBOD ¶ 201 = 201</p>	<p><i>Section I. The Church and Pastoral Charge</i> [201] ¶ 201. <i>Definition of a Local Church</i>—The Local Church provides the most significant arena through which disciple making occurs. It is a community of true believers under the Lordship of Christ. It is the redemptive fellowship in which the Word of God is preached by persons divinely called and the sacraments are duly administered according to Christ’s own appointment. Under the discipline of the Holy Spirit, the church exists for the maintenance of worship, the edification of believers, and the redemption of the world. >VII: —<</p>	<p>This deletion came because of redundancy with the opening of ¶ 202.</p>
<p>¶ 202. <i>The Function of the Local Church</i>—The church of Jesus Christ exists in and for the world. It is primarily at the level of the charge consisting of one or more local churches that the church encounters the world. The local church is a strategic base from which Christians move out to society. The function of the local church, under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, is</p>	<p>[202] ¶ 202. <i>The Function of the Local Church</i>—The church of Jesus Christ exists in and for the world. It is primarily at the level of the charge consisting of one or more local churches that the church encounters the world. The local church is a strategic base from which Christians move out to the structures of society. The function of the local church, under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, is to help people to accept and confess Jesus</p>	

<p>to help people to accept and confess Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior and to live their daily lives in light of their relationship with God. Therefore, the local church is to minister to persons in the community where the church is located, to provide appropriate training and nurture to all, to cooperate in ministry with other local churches, to defend God’s creation and live as an ecologically responsible community, and to participate in the worldwide mission of the church.</p> <p>>VII: —< GBOD ¶ 202 = 202</p>	<p>Christ as Lord and Savior and to live their daily lives in light of their relationship with God. Therefore, the local church is to minister to persons in the community where the church is located, to provide appropriate training and nurture to all, to cooperate in ministry with other local churches, to defend God’s creation and live as an ecologically responsible community, and to participate in the worldwide mission of the church, as minimal expectations of an authentic church.</p> <p>>VII: —<</p>	
<p>¶ 203. <i>Relation to the Wider Church</i>—The local church is a connectional society of believers, being within The United Methodist Church and subject to its <i>Discipline</i> and is also an inherent part of the church universal, which is composed of all who accept Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior, and which in the Apostles’ Creed we declare to be the holy catholic church.</p> <p>>VII: —< GBOD ¶ 203=203</p>	<p>[203] ¶ 203. <i>Relation to the Wider Church</i>—The local church is a connectional society of persons who have been baptized, have professed their faith in Christ, and have assumed the vows of membership in The United Methodist Church. They gather in fellowship to hear the Word of God, receive the sacraments, praise and worship the triune God, and carry forward the work that Christ has committed to his church. Such a society of believers, being within The United Methodist Church and subject to its <i>Discipline</i>, <u>and</u> is also an inherent part of the church universal, which is composed of all who accept Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior, and which in the Apostles’ Creed we declare to be the holy catholic church.</p> <p>>VII: —<</p>	<p>Deleted text: see ¶¶206 and 207.</p>
<p>¶ 204. <i>Responsibility for the Community</i> —Each local church has a definite evangelistic, nurturing, and witnessing responsibility for its members and the surrounding area and a missional outreach responsibility to the local and global community. It is responsible for ministering to all its members, wherever they live, and for persons who choose it as their church.</p> <p>>VII: —< GBOD ¶ 204=204</p>	<p>[204] ¶ 204. <i>Care of Members</i> <u><i>Responsibility for the Community</i></u>—Each local church shall have a definite evangelistic, nurturing, and witnessing responsibility for its members and the surrounding area and a missional outreach responsibility to the local and global community. It shall be <u>is</u> responsible for ministering to all its members, wherever they live, and for persons who choose it as their church.</p> <p>>VII: —<</p>	

¶ 205. *Definition of a Pastoral Charge*—1. A pastoral charge shall consist of one or more churches that are organized under and subject to the *Discipline* of The United Methodist Church, with a charge conference, and to which an ordained or licensed clergy is or may be duly appointed or appointable as pastor in charge or co-pastor. Where co-pastors are appointed, the bishop may designate for administrative purposes one as pastor in charge.¹ >VII: 205.001<

2. A lay person assigned by the bishop, upon recommendation of the cabinet, to do the work of ministry, is accountable to the district superintendent or another clergy appointed to oversee the charge, who will make provision for sacramental ministry.—The layperson assigned is also accountable to the policies and procedures of the annual conference where assigned. >VII: 205.002<

GBOD ¶ 205.1=205.1; 205.2=205.4

1. See Judicial Council Decisions 113, 319

[205] ¶ 205. *Definition of a Pastoral Charge*—1. A pastoral charge shall consist of one or more churches that are organized under and subject to the *Discipline* of The United Methodist Church, with a charge conference, and to which an ordained or licensed minister is or may be duly appointed or appointable as pastor in charge or co-pastor. Where co-pastors are appointed, the bishop may designate for administrative purposes one as pastor in charge.¹ >VII: 205.001<

~~2. A pastoral charge of two or more churches may be designated a circuit or a cooperative parish.~~

~~3. A pastoral charge may be designated by the bishop and cabinet as a “teaching parish” when either a local church with a pastor or a cooperative parish with a director is available to serve as a counseling elder for a provisional, local, or student pastor appointed or assigned to the teaching parish. A teaching parish shall have a demonstrable commitment to a cooperative or team ministry style and the training of pastors.~~

~~4. When a pastoral charge is not able to be served by an ordained or licensed minister, the bishop, upon recommendation of the cabinet, may assign a qualified and trained layperson, lay minister or lay missionary to do the work of ministry in that charge.~~

~~The layperson assigned is accountable to the district superintendent or another ordained or licensed minister appointed to oversee the charge, who will make provision for sacramental ministry. Upon the bishop’s assignment, the layperson will be assigned an additional clergyperson as a guide to provide support in the assignment. If the assignment is to continue longer than one year, within that year the layperson will begin the process of becoming either a certified lay minister or a certified candidate, thus coming under the care of the District Committee on Ministry.~~

[254.] 2. A lay person assigned by the bishop, upon recommendation of the cabinet, to do the work of ministry, is accountable to the district superintendent or another clergy appointed to oversee the charge, who will

¶ 205.2 language close to the original ¶ 205.4, but shortened and reframed, and in accordance to GBOD provisions on lay servant ministries (see ¶ 213).

Original ¶ 205.2 and 205.3 moved to adaptable to allow for contextualization around cooperative parishes, teaching parishes, and lay persons assigned to ministry.

¶ 205.4 stricken text is moved to ¶ 205.002.

BOD 205.2,3 > GBOD 205.001
BOD 205.4 > GBOD 205.002

	<p><u>make provision for sacramental ministry.</u> The layperson assigned is also accountable to the policies and procedures of the annual conference where assigned. >VII: 205.002<</p> <p>1. See Judicial Council Decisions 113, 319</p>	
<p>Section II. Church Membership ¶ 206. <i>Eligibility</i>—The United Methodist Church is a part of the holy catholic (universal) church, as we confess in the Apostles’ Creed. All people may attend its worship services, participate in its programs, receive the sacraments and become members in any local church in the connection (¶ 4). >VII: —< GBOD ¶ 206=214</p>	<p>Section IIV. Church Membership [214] ¶ 206. <i>Eligibility</i>—The United Methodist Church is a part of the holy catholic (universal) church, as we confess in the Apostles’ Creed. In the church, Jesus Christ is proclaimed and professed as Lord and Savior. All people may attend its worship services, participate in its programs, receive the sacraments and become members in any local church in the connection (¶ 4). In the case of persons whose disabilities prevent them from reciting the vows, their legal guardian[s], themselves members in full covenant relationship with God and the Church, the community of faith, may recite the appropriate vows on their behalf. >VII: —<</p>	<p>Sections II-IV with ¶¶ 206-213 are placed in GBOD-Section IV Organization and Administration, after GBOD ¶ 226.</p> <p>Second sentence repeats what is said in the reference to the Apostle’s Creed.</p> <p>Deleted text: see ¶ 208.1.</p>
<p>¶ 207. <i>Definition of Membership</i>—1. The membership of a local United Methodist church shall include all people who have been baptized and all people who have professed their faith.</p> <p>a) The baptized membership of a local United Methodist church shall include all baptized people who have received Christian baptism in the local congregation or elsewhere, or whose membership has been transferred to the local United Methodist church subsequent to baptism in some other congregation.</p> <p>b) The professing membership of a local United Methodist church shall include all baptized people who have come into membership by profession of faith through appropriate services of the baptismal covenant in the ritual or by transfer from other churches.</p>	<p>[215] ¶ 207. <i>Definition of Membership</i>—1. The membership of a local United Methodist church shall include all people who have been baptized and all people who have professed their faith.</p> <p>a)1. The baptized membership of a local United Methodist church shall include all baptized people who have received Christian baptism in the local congregation or elsewhere, or whose membership has been transferred to the local United Methodist church subsequent to baptism in some other congregation.</p> <p>b)2. The professing membership of a local United Methodist church shall include all baptized people who have come into membership by profession of faith through appropriate services of the baptismal covenant in the ritual or by transfer from other churches.</p> <p>2.3. For statistical purposes, church membership is equated to the number of people listed on the roll of professing members.</p>	

<p>2. For statistical purposes, church membership is equated to the number of people listed on the roll of professing members.</p> <p>3. All baptized or professing members of any local United Methodist church are members of the worldwide United Methodist connection and members of the church universal.</p> <p>>VII: —<</p> <p>GBOD ¶ 207.1-3=215.1-4</p>	<p><u>3.4.</u> All baptized or professing members of any local United Methodist church are members of the worldwide United Methodist connection and members of the church universal.</p> <p>>VII: —<</p>	
<p>¶ 208. <i>Baptismal Covenant</i>—1. Christ constitutes the church as his body by the power of the Holy Spirit (1 Corinthians 12:13, 27). The church draws new people into itself as it seeks to remain faithful to its commission to proclaim and exemplify the gospel. In baptism water is administered in the name of the Triune God by an authorized person. Baptism is the sacrament of initiation and incorporation into the body of Christ. After baptism, the church provides the nurture that makes possible a comprehensive and lifelong process of growing in grace.</p> <p>Becoming a professing member requires the answer of faith of the baptized person made visible in a service of profession of Christian faith and confirmation using the vows of the baptismal covenant. In the case of persons whose disabilities prevent them from reciting the vows, their legal guardian[s], themselves members in full covenant relationship with God and the Church, the community of faith, may recite the appropriate vows on their behalf.</p> <p>2. <i>Baptism and Professing membership- a)</i> Baptized infants and children are to be instructed and nurtured in the meaning of the faith, the rights and responsibilities of their baptism, and spiritual and moral formation. Using the services of the baptismal covenant, youth will profess their faith, commit</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">The Meaning of Membership</p> <p>[216] ¶ 208. <i>Baptismal Covenant</i>- 1. Christ constitutes the church as his body by the power of the Holy Spirit (1 Corinthians 12:13, 27). The church draws new people into itself as it seeks to remain faithful to its commission to proclaim and exemplify the gospel. [224] <u>In baptism water is administered in the name of the Triune God by an authorized person.</u> [216] Baptism is the sacrament of initiation and incorporation into the body of Christ. After baptism, the church provides the nurture that makes possible a comprehensive and lifelong process of growing in grace.</p> <p>Becoming a professing member requires the answer of faith of the baptized person made visible in a service of profession of Christian faith and confirmation using the vows of the baptismal covenant. [214] <u>In the case of persons whose disabilities prevent them from reciting the vows, their legal guardian[s], themselves members in full covenant relationship with God and the Church, the community of faith, may recite the appropriate vows on their behalf.</u></p> <p><u>2. Baptism and Professing membership- a)</u> Baptized infants and children are to be instructed and nurtured in the meaning of the faith, the rights and responsibilities of their baptism, and spiritual and moral</p>	<p>Added from ¶ 225</p>

<p>themselves to a life of discipleship, and be confirmed. Confirmation is both a human act of commitment and the gracious action of the Holy Spirit strengthening and empowering discipleship.</p> <p>b) Youth and adults who have not been baptized and who are seeking to be saved from their sins and profess Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior are proper candidates for baptism in The United Methodist Church. It is the duty of the congregation, led by the pastor, to instruct them in the meaning of baptism, in the meaning of the Christian faith, and in the history, organization, and teachings of The United Methodist Church. After the completion of the period of nurture and instruction, the sponsor(s) and pastor shall bring the candidates before the congregation and administer the services of Baptismal Covenant, in which people are baptized, confirmed, and received into the Church. >VII: 208.001<</p> <p>3. <i>Ongoing Formation in the Baptismal Covenant-</i></p> <p>a) Formation in the baptismal covenant and in the call to ministry in daily life is a lifelong process and is carried on through all the activities that have educational value. It focuses attention upon the meaning of discipleship and the need for members to be in mission in all of life's relationships.</p> <p>b) There are many occasions as people mature in the faith when the Holy Spirit's confirming action may be celebrated, such as in the reaffirmation of the baptismal covenant or other services related to life passages. Unlike baptism, which is a once-made covenant and can only be reaffirmed and not repeated, confirmation is a dynamic action of the Holy Spirit that can be repeated.</p> <p>GBOD ¶ 208.1=216.1+214; 208.2=216, 1 a+b; 208.3=216.2</p>	<p>formation using materials approved by The United Methodist Church. Using the services of the baptismal covenant, youth will profess their faith, commit themselves to a life of discipleship, and be confirmed. Confirmation is both a human act of commitment and the gracious action of the Holy Spirit strengthening and empowering discipleship.</p> <p>b) Youth and adults who have not been baptized and who are seeking to be saved from their sins and profess Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior are proper candidates for baptism in The United Methodist Church. It shall be <u>is</u> the duty of the congregation, led by the pastor, to instruct them in the meaning of baptism, in the meaning of the Christian faith, and in the history, organization, and teachings of The United Methodist Church, using materials approved by The United Methodist Church for that purpose. After the completion of the period of nurture and instruction, the sponsor(s) and pastor shall bring the candidates before the congregation and administer the services of Baptismal Covenant, in which people are baptized, confirmed, and received into the Church. >VII: 208.001<</p> <p>2.3. Ongoing Formation in the Baptismal Covenant-</p> <p>a) Formation in the baptismal covenant and in the call to ministry in daily life is a lifelong process and is carried on through all the activities that have educational value. The pastor gives specific leadership that prepares youth for their profession of faith and commitment to discipleship and for the Holy Spirit's action confirming them in their faith and empowering their discipleship. This preparation It focuses attention upon the meaning of discipleship and the need for members to be in mission in all of life's relationships.</p> <p>b) There are many occasions as people mature in the faith when the Holy Spirit's confirming action may be celebrated, such as in the reaffirmation of the</p>	<p>Using materials approved by the UMC and ¶ 216.3 placed in adaptable to allow for contextualization.</p> <p>BOD 216>GBOD 208.001</p> <p>Gives pastors greater flexibility in how they prepare youth for profession of faith and confirmation where applicable.</p>
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	<p>baptismal covenant or other services related to life passages. Unlike baptism, which is a once-made covenant and can only be reaffirmed and not repeated, confirmation is a dynamic action of the Holy Spirit that can be repeated.</p> <p>3. Preparation for the experience of profession of faith and confirmation shall be provided for all people, including adults. Youth who are completing the sixth grade shall normally be the youngest people recruited for such preparation. When younger people, of their own volition, seek enrollment in preparation for profession of faith and confirmation, such preparation shall be at the discretion of the pastor.</p> <p>>VII: —<</p>	
<p>¶ 209. <i>Professing Membership</i>—1. When persons unite as professing members with a local United Methodist church, they profess their faith in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth; in Jesus Christ his only Son, and in the Holy Spirit. Thus, they make known their desire to live their daily lives as disciples of Jesus Christ.</p> <p>2. They covenant together with God and with the members of the local church to keep the vows which are a part of the order of confirmation and reception into the Church:</p> <p>a) To renounce the spiritual forces of wickedness, reject the evil powers of the world, and repent of their sin;</p> <p>b) To accept the freedom and power God gives them to resist evil, injustice, and oppression;</p> <p>c) To confess Jesus Christ as Savior, put their whole trust in his grace, and promise to serve him as their Lord;</p>	<p>[217] ¶ 209. <i>Professing Membership</i>- 1. When persons unite as professing members with a local United Methodist church, they profess their faith in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth; in Jesus Christ his only Son; and in the Holy Spirit. Thus, they make known their desire to live their daily lives as disciples of Jesus Christ.</p> <p>2. They covenant together with God and with the members of the local church to keep the vows which are a part of the order of confirmation and reception into the Church:</p> <p>a)1. To renounce the spiritual forces of wickedness, reject the evil powers of the world, and repent of their sin;</p> <p>b)2. To accept the freedom and power God gives them to resist evil, injustice, and oppression;</p> <p>c)3. To confess Jesus Christ as Savior, put their whole trust in his grace, and promise to serve him as their Lord;</p> <p>d)4. To remain faithful members of Christ’s holy church and serve as Christ’s representatives in the world;</p> <p>e)5. To be loyal to Christ through The United Methodist Church and do all in their power to strengthen its ministries;</p>	

<p>d) To remain faithful members of Christ’s holy church and serve as Christ’s representatives in the world;</p> <p>e) To be loyal to Christ through The United Methodist Church and do all in their power to strengthen its ministries;</p> <p>f) To faithfully participate in its ministries by their prayers, their presence, their gifts, their service, and their witness;</p> <p>g) To receive and profess the Christian faith as contained in the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments.</p> <p>>VII: —<</p> <p>GBOD ¶ 209.1-2=217.Intro+1-7</p>	<p>f)6- To faithfully participate in its ministries by their prayers, their presence, their gifts, their service, and their witness;</p> <p>g)7- To receive and profess the Christian faith as contained in the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments.</p> <p>>VII: —<</p>	
<p>¶ 210. <i>Growth in Faithful Discipleship</i>—Faithful membership in the local church is essential for personal growth and for developing a deeper commitment to the will and grace of God. As members involve themselves in private and public prayer, worship, the sacraments, study, Christian action, systematic giving, and holy discipline, they grow in their appreciation of Christ, understanding of God at work in history and the natural order, and an understanding of themselves.</p> <p>>VII: —<</p> <p>GBOD ¶ 210=218</p>	<p>[218] ¶ 210. <i>Growth in Faithful Discipleship</i>—Faithful membership in the local church is essential for personal growth and for developing a deeper commitment to the will and grace of God. As members involve themselves in private and public prayer, worship, the sacraments, study, Christian action, systematic giving, and holy discipline, they grow in their appreciation of Christ, understanding of God at work in history and the natural order, and an understanding of themselves.</p> <p>>VII: —<</p>	
<p>¶ 211. <i>Mutual Responsibility</i>—Faithful discipleship includes the obligation to participate in the corporate life of the congregation with fellow members of the body of Christ. A member is bound in sacred covenant to shoulder the burdens, share the risks, and celebrate the joys of fellow members. A Christian is called to speak the truth in love, always ready to respond to conflict in the spirit of forgiveness and reconciliation.</p>	<p>[219] ¶ 211. <i>Mutual Responsibility</i>—Faithful discipleship includes the obligation to participate in the corporate life of the congregation with fellow members of the body of Christ. A member is bound in sacred covenant to shoulder the burdens, share the risks, and celebrate the joys of fellow members. A Christian is called to speak the truth in love, always ready to <u>respond to conflict</u> in the spirit of forgiveness and reconciliation.</p> <p>>VII: —<</p>	

<p>>VII: —< GBOD ¶ 211=219</p>		
<p>¶ 212. <i>The Call to Ministry of All the Baptized</i>—All members of Christ’s universal church are called to share in the ministry which is committed to the whole church of Jesus Christ. Therefore, each member of The United Methodist Church is to be a servant of Christ on mission in the local and worldwide community. This servanthood is performed in family life, daily work, recreation and social activities, responsible citizenship, the stewardship of property and accumulated resources, the issues of corporate life, and all attitudes toward other persons. Members are to engage in disciplined, covenant or class meetings to foster their missional involvement and to witness for Christ, serving as a living example in society while addressing injustice and suffering in the world and taking action which helps exemplify the hope and promise of Christ.</p> <p>>VII: —< GBOD ¶ 212=220</p>	<p>[220] ¶ 212. <i>The Call to Ministry of All the Baptized</i>—All members of Christ’s universal church are called to share in the ministry which is committed to the whole church of Jesus Christ. Therefore, each member of The United Methodist Church is to be a servant of Christ on mission in the local and worldwide community. This servanthood is performed in family life, daily work, recreation and social activities, responsible citizenship, the stewardship of property and accumulated resources, the issues of corporate life, and all attitudes toward other persons. <u>Members are to engage in disciplined, groups such as covenant discipleship groups or class meetings to foster their is an expected part of personal missional involvement and.</u> <u>Each member is called upon to be a witness for Christ while addressing injustice and suffering in the world and taking action which helps in the world, a light and leaven in society, and a reconciler in a culture of conflict.</u> <u>Each member is to identify with the agony and suffering of the world and to radiate and exemplify the hope and promise of Christ, of hope.</u> <u>The standards of attitude and conduct set forth in the Social Principles (Part V) shall be considered as an essential resource for guiding each member of the Church in being a servant of Christ on mission.</u></p> <p>>VII: —<</p>	<p>Edits reflect membership vows.</p>
<p>¶ 213. <i>Lay Servant Ministries</i>- Each central conference may create categories of servant ministries for lay persons which are appropriate and needed for the expanding and ongoing mission and ministry of that conference. Educational, spiritual, and psychological qualifications and provisions for appropriate certification may be defined by the central conference. Jurisdictional conferences shall follow the procedures in Part VII of the <i>Discipline</i>.</p>	<p><i>Section XI. Lay Servant Ministries</i> ¶ 213. <i>Lay Servant Ministries</i>- <u>Each central conference may create categories of servant ministries for lay persons which are appropriate and needed for the expanding and ongoing mission and ministry of that conference. Educational, spiritual, and psychological qualifications and provisions for appropriate certification may be defined by the central conference. Jurisdictional conferences shall follow the procedures in Part VII of the <i>Discipline</i>.</u></p>	<p>Lay Servant Ministries according to ¶¶ 266-269 may take different shape and structuring in different contexts. Therefore, GBOD captures the essential of what central conferences have to consider in their own regulations, whereas jurisdictional conferences find all</p>

<p>>VII: 213.001-213.004< GBOD ¶ 213=266+new</p>	<p>>VII: 213.001-213.004<</p>	<p>the specifics in Part VII of the Discipline.</p> <p>BOD 266>GBOD 213.001 BOD 267>GBOD 213.002 BOD 268>GBOD 213.003 BOD 269>GBOD 213.004</p>
<p>¶ 214. <i>Membership Records</i>—1. Each local church shall accurately maintain:</p> <p>a) Membership records for each baptized or professing member including:</p> <p>(1) the person’s name, date of birth, address, place of birth, date of baptism, officiating pastor, and sponsors;</p> <p>(2) date of confirmation/profession of faith, officiating pastor, and sponsors;</p> <p>(3) if transferred from another church, date of reception, sending church, and receiving pastor;</p> <p>(4) if transferred to another church, date of transfer, receiving church, and address of receiving church;</p> <p>(5) date of removal or withdrawal and reason;</p> <p>(6) date of restoration of professing membership and officiating pastor;</p> <p>(7) date of death, date and place of funeral/memorial, place of burial, and officiating pastor.</p> <p>b) Constituency Roll, containing the names and addresses of such persons as are not members of the church concerned, including unbaptized children, youth and adults whose names are not on the membership record, and other nonmembers for whom the local church has pastoral responsibility.</p> <p>c) Affiliate Membership Roll.</p> <p>d) Associate Membership Roll.</p> <p>2. In the case of a union or federated church with another denomination, the governing body of such</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>MEMBERSHIP RECORDS AND REPORTS</i></p> <p>[230] ¶ 214. <i>Membership Records</i>-1. Each local church shall accurately maintain:</p> <p>a) a-m Membership records for each baptized or professing member including:</p> <p>(1)a the person’s name, date of birth, address, place of birth, date of baptism, officiating pastor, and sponsors;</p> <p>(2)b date of confirmation/profession of faith, officiating pastor, and sponsors;</p> <p>(3)e if transferred from another church, date of reception, sending church, and receiving pastor;</p> <p>(4)d if transferred to another church, date of transfer, receiving church, and address of receiving church;</p> <p>(5)e date of removal or withdrawal and reason;</p> <p>(6)f date of restoration of professing membership and officiating pastor;</p> <p>(7)g date of death, date and place of funeral/memorial, place of burial, and officiating pastor.</p> <p>2. Annually, names of professing members to be removed by charge conference action shall be reported to the charge conference (¶ 228.2.b.4).</p> <p>b)3. Constituency Roll, containing the names and addresses of such persons as are not members of the church concerned, including unbaptized children, youth and adults whose names are not on the membership record, and other nonmembers for whom the local church</p>	

<p>a church may report an equal share of the total membership to each judicatory, and such membership shall be published in the minutes of each church, with a note to the effect that the report is that of a union or federated church, and with an indication of the total actual membership.</p> <p>>VII: 214.001-214.003< GBOD ¶ 214.1a=230.1; 214.1b-d+2=230.3-6</p>	<p>has pastoral responsibility.</p> <p>c)4. Affiliate Membership Roll-(¶ 227). d)5. Associate Membership Roll-(¶ 227).</p> <p><u>2.6.</u> In the case of a union or federated church with another denomination, the governing body of such a church may report an equal share of the total membership to each judicatory, and such membership shall be published in the minutes of each church, with a note to the effect that the report is that of a union or federated church, and with an indication of the total actual membership.</p> <p>>VII: 214.001-214.003<</p>	<p>¶ ¶ 222-224 is put in adaptable part to allow for contextualization around non local church settings, membership rolls, and outside of congregational settings.</p> <p>BOD 222 > GBOD 214.001 BOD 223 > GBOD 214.002 BOD 224 > GBOD 214.003</p>
<p>¶ 215. <i>Transfer from Other Denominations</i>—A member in good standing in any Christian denomination who has been baptized and who desires to unite with The United Methodist Church shall be received as either a baptized or a professing member. Such a person may be received as a baptized member by a proper certificate of transfer from that person’s former church or some certification of Christian baptism and as a professing member upon taking vows declaring the Christian faith through appropriate services of the baptismal covenant in our ritual. The pastor will report to the sending church the date of reception of such a member. It is recommended that instruction in the faith, ministry, and polity of the Church be provided for all such persons. Persons received from churches that do not issue certificates of transfer or letters of recommendation shall be listed as “Received From Other Denominations.”</p> <p>>VII: —< GBOD ¶ 215=225</p>	<p>[225] ¶215. <i>Transfer from Other Denominations</i>-A member in good standing in any Christian denomination who has been baptized and who desires to unite with The United Methodist Church shall be received as either a baptized or a professing member. Such a person may be received as a baptized member by a proper certificate of transfer from that person’s former church or some certification of Christian baptism and as a professing member upon taking vows declaring the Christian faith through appropriate services of the baptismal covenant in our ritual—(see ¶¶ 214-217).—In baptism water is administered in the name of the Triune God by an authorized person. The pastor will report to the sending church the date of reception of such a member. It is recommended that instruction in the faith, work, and polity of the Church be provided for all such persons. Persons received from churches that do not issue certificates of transfer or letters of recommendation shall be listed as “Received From Other Denominations.”</p> <p>>VII: —<</p>	
<p>¶ 216. <i>Affiliate and Associate Membership</i>—1. A professing member of The United Methodist Church, of an affiliated autonomous Methodist or united</p>	<p>Affiliate and Associate Membership</p> <p>[227] ¶ 216. <i>Affiliate and Associate Membership</i>- 1. A professing member of The United Methodist Church, of</p>	

<p>church, or of a Methodist church that has a concordat agreement with The United Methodist Church, who resides for an extended period in a city or community at a distance from the member’s home church, may on request be enrolled as an affiliate member of a United Methodist church located in the vicinity of the temporary residence. The home pastor shall be notified of the affiliate membership. Such membership entitles the person to the fellowship of that church, to its pastoral care and oversight, and to participation in its activities, including the holding of office; except such as would allow one to vote in a United Methodist body other than the local church. However, that person is counted and reported as a professing member of the home church only.</p> <p>2. A member of another denomination may become an associate member under the same conditions, but may not become a voting member of the church council.²</p> <p>3. Affiliate or associate relationship may be terminated at the discretion of the United Methodist church in which the affiliate or associate membership is held whenever the affiliate or associate member shall move from the vicinity of the United Methodist church in which the affiliate or associate membership is held.</p> <p>>VII: —<</p> <p>GBOD ¶ 216.1-3=227</p> <p>2. See Judicial Council Decision 372.</p>	<p>an affiliated autonomous Methodist or united church, or of a Methodist church that has a concordat agreement with The United Methodist Church, who resides for an extended period in a city or community at a distance from the member’s home church, may on request be enrolled as an affiliate member of a United Methodist church located in the vicinity of the temporary residence. The home pastor shall be notified of the affiliate membership. Such membership shall <u>entitles</u> the person to the fellowship of that church, to its pastoral care and oversight, and to participation in its activities, including the holding of office; except such as would allow one to vote in a United Methodist body other than the local church. However, that person shall be <u>is</u> counted and reported as a professing member of the home church only.</p> <p>2. A member of another denomination may become an associate member under the same conditions, but may not become a voting member of the church council.²</p> <p>3. <u>Affiliate or associate</u> This relationship may be terminated at the discretion of the United Methodist church in which the affiliate or associate membership is held whenever the affiliate or associate member shall move from the vicinity of the United Methodist church in which the affiliate or associate membership is held.</p> <p>>VII: —<</p> <p>2. See Judicial Council Decision 372.</p>	
<p>¶ 217. <i>Accountability</i>—1. All members are to be held account-able for faithfulness to their covenant of baptism.</p> <p>2. If a baptized member neglects faithfulness and discipline in terms of the baptismal covenant, every means of encouraging that member to return and</p>	<p>[221] ¶ 217. <i>Accountability</i>—1. All members are to be held account- able for faithfulness to their covenant of baptism.</p> <p>2. If a baptized member neglects faithfulness and discipline in terms of the baptismal covenant, every means of encouraging that member to return and of nurturing him or her to assume the vows of professing membership should be made.</p>	

<p>of nurturing him or her to assume the vows of professing membership should be made.</p> <p>3. If a professing member should be accused of violating the covenant and failing to keep the confirmation vows, then it is the responsibility of the local church, working through its pastor and its units, to minister to that member in compliance with the provisions of ¶ 220 in an effort to enable the member to faithfully perform the vows and covenant of membership.</p> <p>>VII: 217.001< GBOD ¶ 217.1-3=221.1-3</p>	<p>3. If a professing member should be accused of violating the covenant and failing to keep the vows as stated in ¶ 217, then it shall be <u>is</u> the responsibility of the local church, working through its pastor and its agencies <u>units</u>, to minister to that member in compliance with the provisions of ¶ 228 220 in an effort to enable the member to faithfully perform the vows and covenant of membership.</p> <p>>VII: 217.001<</p>	<p>¶¶ 221.4 and 221.5 in adaptable to allow for contextualization around accountability and membership.</p> <p>BOD 221.4 > GBOD 217.001 BOD 221.5 > GBOD 217.001</p>
<p>¶ 218. <i>Annual Membership Report and Audit</i>—1. The pastor shall report to the charge conference annually the names of persons received into the membership of the church or churches of the pastoral charge and the names of persons removed since the last charge conference, indicating how each was received or removed. The church council shall appoint a committee to audit the membership record, submitting the report annually to the charge conference. >VII: 218.001<</p> <p>2. In central conferences, the membership records in each local church shall be according to a common format prepared by the General Council on Finance and Administration in cooperation with the central conferences. Jurisdictional conferences shall follow the procedures in Part VII of the <i>Discipline</i>.</p> <p>>VII: 218.002< GBOD ¶ 218.1=231; 218.2=233/new</p>	<p>[231] ¶ 218. <i>Annual Membership Report and Audit</i>—<u>1.</u> The pastor shall report to the charge conference annually the names of persons received into the membership of the church or churches of the pastoral charge and the names of persons removed since the last charge conference, indicating how each was received or removed. The church council shall appoint a committee to audit the membership record, submitting the report annually to the charge conference.</p> <p>[233] <u>2. In central conferences, the membership records in each local church shall be according to a common format prepared by the General Council on Finance and Administration in cooperation with the central conferences. Jurisdictional conferences shall follow the procedures in Part VII of the <i>Discipline</i>.</u></p> <p>>VII: 218.002<</p>	<p>¶ 232 to 235 and 245 in adaptable to allow for contextualization around annual report of members attending colleges and universities, membership secretary, membership roles, and information technology.</p> <p>BOD 232 > GBOD 218.001 BOD 233, 245 > GBOD 218.002</p>
<p>Section III. Care of Members</p> <p>¶ 219. <i>Care of Children and Youth</i>—1. Because the redeeming love of God revealed in Jesus Christ extends to all persons, and because Jesus explicitly included the children in his kingdom, it is the responsibility of the pastor of each charge to counsel Christian parents or</p>	<p><u><i>Section III. Care of Members</i></u></p> <p>[226] ¶ 219. <i>Care of Children and Youth</i>-1. Because the redeeming love of God revealed in Jesus Christ extends to all persons, and because Jesus explicitly included the children in his kingdom, <u>it is the responsibility of the pastor of each charge shall earnestly</u></p>	<p>Much of the remaining sections of ¶ 219 were placed in the adaptable portions.</p>

<p>guardians in the meaning of baptism for children and youth of all ages, and of the significance of the vows for themselves and the local church. This includes active participation in the life of faith in the local church to prepare everyone for lifelong membership in Christ’s Church. At least one parent or guardian shall be a member of a Christian church; or sponsor(s) or godparent(s) who are members renewing their own baptismal vows. All members of the local church likewise will assist and encourage the nurture of each child or youth.</p> <p>2. The pastor of the church shall, at the time of administering the sacrament of baptism, furnish the parent(s), guardian(s), sponsor(s), or godparent(s) of the child who is baptized with a certificate of baptism, which also clearly states that the child is now a baptized member in The United Methodist Church. Appropriate records of the sacrament of baptism shall be maintained and kept at the local church or another appropriate location. >VII: 219.001<</p> <p>3. The membership record shall be regularly reviewed to identify those who have not become professing members, for purposes of nurturing them toward profession of faith. >VII: 219.002< GBOD ¶ 219.1=226.1; 219.2=226.2a+b; 219.3=226.3</p>	<p>exhort all to counsel Christian parents or guardians to present in the meaning of baptism for children and youth of all ages, and of the significance of their children to the Lord in baptism at an early age. Before baptism is administered, the pastor shall diligently instruct the parents or guardians regarding the meaning of this sacrament and the vows for themselves and the local church. that they assume. It is expected of parents or guardians who present their children for baptism that they shall use all diligence in bringing them up in conformity to the Word of God and in the fellowship of the Church and to encourage them to <u>This includes active participation participate in preparation for their profession in the life of faith and in the local church to prepare everyone for lifelong membership in Christ's Church. confirmation at the appropriate time.</u> At least one parent or guardian shall be a member of a Christian church; or sponsor(s) or godparent(s) who are members shall renew <u>renewing</u> their own baptismal vows. They shall be admonished of this obligation and be earnestly exhorted to faithfulness therein. At the time of baptism they shall be informed that the Church, with its Christian education program, will aid them in the Christian <u>All members of the local church likewise will assist and encourage the nurture of each child or youth.</u>their children.</p> <p>2.-a) The pastor of the church shall, at the time of administering the sacrament of baptism, furnish the parent(s), guardian(s), sponsor(s), or godparent(s) of the child who is baptized with a certificate of baptism, which shall also clearly state that the child is now a baptized member in The United Methodist Church. <u>Appropriate records of the sacrament of baptism shall be maintained and kept at the local church or another appropriate location.</u> >VII: 219.001<</p> <p>3. The pastor or membership secretary shall</p>	<p>Child baptism continues to be the regular practice in The United Methodist Church. However, nowadays the role of a pastor has evolved from “exhort” to “counsel” and educate.</p> <p>BOD 226.2 > GBOD 219.001 BOD 226.3-5 > GBOD 219.002</p> <p>¶ 226.2b-e and 226.3-5 is adaptable to allow for slight</p>
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	<p>regularly review the membership record shall be regularly reviewed to identify those who have not become professing members, for purposes of nurturing them toward profession of faith. >VII: 219.002<</p>	<p>contextualization around baptism for children who do not live in the community.</p>
<p>¶ 220. Care of Adult Members— 1. The local church shall endeavor to enlist each member in activities for spiritual growth and in participation in the services and ministries of the Church and its organizations. It is the duty of the pastor and of the members of the church council by regular visitation, care, and spiritual oversight to provide necessary activities and opportunities for spiritual growth through individual and family worship and individual and group study to connect faith and daily living, and continually to aid the members to keep their vows to uphold the Church by their prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness. The Church has a moral and spiritual obligation to nurture its nonparticipating and indifferent members and to lead them into an active church relationship.</p> <p>2. The pastor in cooperation with the church council may arrange the membership in groups—with a leader for each group—designed to involve the membership of the Church in its ministry to the community. Such groups may be especially helpful in evangelistic outreach by contacting newcomers and unreached persons, by visitation, by mobilizing neighbors to meet social issues in the community, by responding to personal and family crises, by holding prayer meetings in the homes, by distributing Christian literature, and by other means.</p> <p>>VII: 220.001< GBOD ¶ 220.1=228.1; 220.2=228.2a</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">CARE OF MEMBERS</p> <p>[228] ¶ 220. Care of Adult Members- 1. The local church shall endeavor to enlist each member in activities for spiritual growth and in participation in the services and ministries of the Church and its organizations. It shall be <u>is</u> the duty of the pastor and of the members of the church council by regular visitation, care, and spiritual oversight to provide necessary activities and opportunities for spiritual growth through individual and family worship and individual and group study to connect faith and daily living, and continually to aid the members to keep their vows to uphold the Church by <u>their attendance</u>, prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness. The Church has a moral and spiritual obligation to nurture its nonparticipating and indifferent members and to lead them into an active church relationship.</p> <p>2. Care of Members a) The pastor in cooperation with the church council may arrange the membership in groups-- with a leader for each group-- designed to involve the membership of the Church in its ministry to the community. These groups shall be of such size, usually not larger than eight or ten families, as to be convenient and effective for service. Such groups may be especially helpful in evangelistic outreach by contacting newcomers and unreached persons, by visitation, by mobilizing neighbors to meet social issues in the community, by responding to personal and family crises, by holding prayer meetings in the homes, by distributing Christian literature, and by other means.</p> <p>>VII: 220.001<</p>	<p>Wording “their prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness” in parallel with the vows in GBOD209.2f).</p> <p>¶ 228.2a, 236-238 are adaptable to allow for great flexibility around nonresident members, members who move and members residing at a distance.</p> <p>BOD 228.2a, 236-238 > GBOD 220.001</p>

¶ 221. *Review in Case of Neglect*—1. While primary responsibility and initiative rests with each professing member to faithfully perform the vows of the baptismal covenant that have been solemnly assumed, if the member should be neglectful of that responsibility, the following procedures shall be implemented:

2. Membership records are reviewed regarding the active participation of all professing members residing in the community. Inactive members are requested to do one of four things:

a) reaffirm the baptismal vows and return to living in the community of the baptismal covenant in the church where the member's name is recorded,

b) request transfer to another United Methodist church where the member will return to living in the community of the baptismal covenant,

c) arrange transfer to a particular church of another denomination, or

d) request withdrawal.

3. If a professing member whose address is known is residing outside the community and is not participating in the worship or activity of the church, the directives to encourage a transfer of the member shall be followed or that member may request in writing that the name be removed from the roll of professing members.

4.. If the address of a professing member is no longer known to the pastor, every effort shall be made to locate the member. If the member can be located, the directives of either §2 or §3 above shall be followed.

5. If the directives of §2, §3, or §4 above have been followed over a period of two years without success, the member's name may be removed as a professing member by vote of the charge conference on recommendation of the pastor. On the membership record there shall be entered after the name: "Removed

[228] ¶ 221. *Review in Case of Neglect- 1. b)* While primary responsibility and initiative rests with each professing member to faithfully perform the vows of the baptismal covenant that have been solemnly assumed, if the member should be neglectful of that responsibility, ~~these the following~~ procedures shall be followed implemented:

2.(1) Membership records are reviewed regarding the active participation of all professing members residing in the community. Inactive members are ~~If a professing member residing in the community is negligent of the vows or is regularly absent from the worship of the church without valid reason, the pastor and the membership secretary shall report that member's name to the church council, which shall do all in its power to reenlist the member in the active fellowship of the church. It shall visit the member and make clear that, while the member's name is on the roll of a particular local church, one is a member of The United Methodist Church as a whole, and that, since the member is not attending the church where enrolled, the member is requested to do one of four things: (a) reaffirm the baptismal vows and return to living in the community of the baptismal covenant in the church where the member's name is recorded, (b) request transfer to another United Methodist church where the member will return to living in the community of the baptismal covenant (see ¶ 239), (c) arrange transfer to a particular church of another denomination (see ¶ 240), or (d) request withdrawal. If the member does not comply with any of the available alternatives over a period of two years, the member's name may be removed. (See § [4].)~~

3.(2) If a professing member whose address is known is residing outside the community and is not participating in the worship or activity of the church, the directives to encourage a transfer of the member shall be

All of ¶ 228.2b shortened to essentials; some elements are transferred to the adaptable part.

by Charge Conference Action”; and if the action is on the basis of §4 above, there shall be added: “Reason: Address Unknown.” The record shall be retained in order that upon reaffirmation of the baptismal covenant the person may be restored as a member. Should a transfer of membership be requested, the pastor may, after consultation with the person, issue the certificate of transfer.

>VII: 221.001<

GBOD ¶ 221.1-5=228.2b(1)-(4)

~~followed each year until that member joins another church or that member may requests in writing that the name be removed from the roll of professing members; provided, however, that if after two years the council has not been able to relate that member to the church at the new place of residence, the name may be removed from the roll of members by the procedure of § (4) below.~~

~~4.(3) If the address of a professing member is no longer known to the pastor, the membership secretary and the evangelism ministry group chairperson shall make every effort shall be made to locate the member. If the member can be located, the directives of either §2 or §3 (1) or § (2) above shall be followed, but if after two years of such efforts the address is still unknown, the member’s name may be removed from the roll of members by the procedure of § (4) below.~~

~~5.(4) If the directives of §2, §3, or §4 §§ (1), (2), or (3) above have been followed over a period of two years for the specified number of years without success, the member’s name may be removed as a professing member by vote of the charge conference on recommendation of the pastor, and the evangelism ministry chairperson, each name being considered individually, provided that the member’s name shall have been entered in the minutes of the annual charge conference for two consecutive years. On the membership record there shall be entered after the name: “Removed by Charge Conference Action”; and if the action is on the basis of §4 § (3), there shall be added: “Reason: Address Unknown.” The record shall be retained in order that upon reaffirmation of the baptismal covenant the person may be restored as a member. Should a transfer of membership be requested, the pastor may, after consultation with the person, issue the certificate of transfer.~~

>VII: 221.001<

¶ 228.2b(5)ff is adaptable to allow some contextualization around complaint process against lay persons, review of members, and information about campus ministry.

BOD 228.2b(5)ff > GBOD
221.001

<p>¶ 222. <i>Transfer of Members – 1. Transfer to Other United Methodist Churches</i>—When a pastor receives a request for a transfer of membership from a member or from the pastor of another United Methodist church or a district superintendent, that pastor shall send the proper certificate directly to the pastor of the United Methodist church to which the member is transferring, or if there is no pastor, to the district superintendent. On receipt of such a certificate of transfer, the pastor or district superintendent shall enroll the name of the person so transferring after public reception in a regular service of worship, or if circumstances demand, public announcement in such a service. The pastor of the church issuing the certificate shall then be notified, whereupon said pastor shall remove the member from the roll. >VII: 222.001<</p> <p>2. <i>Transfer to Other Denominations</i>—A pastor, upon receiving a request from a member to transfer to a church of another denomination, shall properly record the transfer of such person on the membership record of the local church. Upon request of the member, the pastor shall hand a certificate of transfer to the member. >VII: 222.002<</p> <p>3. <i>Transfer from Discontinued Local Churches</i>—If a local church is discontinued, the district superintendent shall select another United Methodist church and transfer its members thereto, or to such other churches as the members may select. GBOD ¶ 222.1=239; 222.2=240; 222.3=229</p>	<p>[239] ¶ 222. <i>Transfer of Members- 1. Transfer to Other United Methodist Churches</i>-When a pastor receives a request for a transfer of membership from <u>a member or from</u> the pastor of another United Methodist church or a district superintendent, that pastor shall send the proper certificate directly to the pastor of the United Methodist church to which the member is transferring, or if there is no pastor, to the district superintendent. On receipt of such a certificate of transfer, the pastor or district superintendent shall enroll the name of the person so transferring after public reception in a regular service of worship, or if circumstances demand, public announcement in such a service. The pastor of the church issuing the certificate shall then be notified, whereupon said pastor shall remove the member from the roll. >VII: 222.001<</p> <p>[240] - 2. <i>Transfer to Other Denominations</i>-A pastor, upon receiving a request from a member to transfer to a church of another denomination, or upon receiving such request from a pastor or duly authorized official of another denomination, shall (with the approval of the member) issue a certificate of transfer and, upon receiving confirmation of the member’s reception into another congregation, shall properly record the transfer of such person on the membership record of the local church. <u>Upon request of the member, the pastor shall hand a certificate of transfer to the member.</u> >VII: 222.002<</p> <p>[229] 3. <i>Transfer from Discontinued Local Churches</i>-If a local church is discontinued, the district superintendent shall select another United Methodist church and transfer its members thereto, or to such other churches as the members may select. (See ¶ 2549.2.)</p>	<p>This language helps it to make sense.</p> <p>Parts of BOD 239 and 240 as adaptable to allow flexibility around transfer forms.</p> <p>BOD 239 > GBOD 222.001</p> <p>BOD 240 > GBOD 222.002</p>
<p>¶ 223. <i>Withdrawal Without Notice</i>—If a pastor is informed that a member has without notice united with</p>	<p>[241] ¶ 223. <i>Withdrawal Without Notice</i>-If a pastor is informed that a member has without notice united with a</p>	

<p>a church of another denomination, the pastor shall make diligent inquiry and, if the report is confirmed, shall enter “Withdrawn” after the person’s name on the membership roll and shall report the same to the next charge conference. >VII: —< GBOD ¶ 223=241</p>	<p>church of another denomination, the pastor shall make diligent inquiry and, if the report is confirmed, shall enter “Withdrawn” after the person’s name on the membership roll and shall report the same to the next charge conference. >VII: —<</p>	
<p>¶ 224. <i>Restoration of Professing Membership</i>—1. A person whose name has been removed from professing membership by withdrawal, or action by charge conference, or trial court, may ask to be restored to membership in the local church. 2. A person whose membership was recorded as having been withdrawn, for any voluntary reason may be restored to professing membership by reaffirmation of the baptismal vows. 3. A person who withdrew under charges or was removed by trial court may ask to return to the church. Upon evidence of a renewed life, approval of the charge conference, and reaffirmation of the baptismal vows, the person may be restored to professing membership. >VII: —< GBOD ¶ 224.1+2=242.1+2; 224.3=242.5</p>	<p>[242] ¶ 224. <i>Restoration of Professing Membership</i>-1. A person whose name has been removed from professing membership by withdrawal, or action by charge conference, or trial court-(¶ 2714), may ask to be restored to membership in the local church. 2. A person whose membership was recorded as having been withdrawn, <u>for any voluntary reason may after becoming a member of another denomination may, when that denomination will not transfer membership,</u> be restored to professing membership by reaffirmation of the baptismal vows. 3. A person who has withdrawn at his or her own written request may return to the church and, upon reaffirmation of the baptismal vows, become a professing member. 4. A person whose name was removed by charge conference action may return to the church and, at his or her request, be restored to professing membership in the local church through reaffirmation of the baptismal vows. 3.5. A person who withdrew under charges or was removed by trial court (¶ 2714) may ask to return to the church. Upon evidence of a renewed life, approval of the charge conference, and reaffirmation of the baptismal vows, the person may be restored to professing membership. >VII: —<</p>	<p>These edits simply are a briefer way to describe the process of returning.</p>
<p>Section IV. Organization of the Local Church ¶ 225. <i>Primary Tasks</i>— In carrying out its primary task, the local church shall be organized so that</p>	<p>Section IV.VI. Organization of the Local Church and Administration [243] ¶ 225. <i>Primary Tasks</i>-The local church shall be</p>	<p>First paragraph of ¶ 243 now deleted as redundant with GBOD202.</p>

<p>adequate provision is made for these basic responsibilities:</p> <p>(1) planning and implementing a program of nurture, outreach, and witness for persons and families within and without the congregation;</p> <p>(2) providing for effective pastoral and lay leadership;</p> <p>(3) providing for financial support, physical facilities, and the legal obligations of the church;</p> <p>(4) utilizing the appropriate relationships and resources of the district and annual conference;</p> <p>(5) providing for the proper creation, maintenance, and disposition of documentary record material of the local church; and</p> <p>(6) seeking inclusiveness in all aspects of its life.</p> <p>>VII: —<</p> <p>GBOD ¶ 225=243</p>	<p>organized so that it can pursue its primary task and mission in the context of its own community reaching out and receiving with joy all who will respond; encouraging people in their relationship with God and inviting them to commitment to God’s love in Jesus Christ; providing opportunities for them to seek strengthening and growth in spiritual formation; and supporting them to live lovingly and justly in the power of the Holy Spirit as faithful disciples.</p> <p>In carrying out its primary task, <u>the local church</u> it shall be organized so that adequate provision is made for these basic responsibilities:</p> <p>(1) planning and implementing a program of nurture, outreach, and witness for persons and families within and without the congregation;</p> <p>(2) providing for effective pastoral and lay leadership;</p> <p>(3) providing for financial support, physical facilities, and the legal obligations of the church;</p> <p>(4) utilizing the appropriate relationships and resources of the district and annual conference;</p> <p>(5) providing for the proper creation, maintenance, and disposition of documentary record material of the local church; and</p> <p>(6) seeking inclusiveness in all aspects of its life.</p> <p>>VII: —<</p>	
<p>¶ 226. <i>Organization</i>— 1. The basic organizational plan for the local church shall include provision for the following units: a charge conference, a church council, a committee on nominations and leadership development, a committee on pastor-parish relations, a committee on finance, a board of trustees unless otherwise required by civil law, and such other elected leaders, commissions, councils, committees, and task forces as the charge conference may determine. Every</p>	<p>[244] ¶ 226. <i>Organization- 1.</i> The basic organizational plan for the local church shall include provision for the following units: a charge conference, a church council, <u>a committee on nominations and leadership development</u>, a committee on pastor-parish relations, <u>a committee on finance</u>, a board of trustees <u>unless otherwise required by civil law</u>, a committee on finance, a committee on nominations and leadership development, and such other elected leaders, commissions, councils, committees, and</p>	<p>“unless otherwise required by civil law” added as there are countries where property issues are not handled through local church board of trustees; cf. GBOD231.5 and chapter 6 on Property.</p>

<p>local church shall develop a plan for organizing its administrative and programmatic responsibilities. >VII: 226.001<</p> <p>2. The church council and all other administrative and programmatic structures of the local church shall be amenable to the charge conference. The church council shall function as the executive unit of the charge conference.</p> <p>3. When circumstances so require, the charge conference may, in consultation with and upon the approval of the district superintendent, modify the organizational plans, provided that the provisions of ¶ 225 are observed. >VII: 226.002<</p> <p>4. Members of the church council or alternative structure shall be persons of genuine Christian character who love the church, are morally disciplined, are committed to the mandate of inclusiveness in the life of the church, are loyal to the ethical standards of The United Methodist Church set forth in the Social Principles, and are competent to administer its affairs. It shall include youth and young adult members chosen according to the same standards as adults. All persons with vote shall be members of the local church, except where central conference legislation provides otherwise. The pastor shall be the administrative officer and, as such, shall be an ex officio member of all conferences, boards, councils, commissions, committees, and task forces, unless otherwise restricted by the <i>Discipline</i>.³</p> <p>5. Central conferences shall establish provisions, or delegate such authority to their respective annual conferences, for organizing a new church or a new charge, provided that the organizing of a new local church within a charge shall be subject at least to the agreement of the superintendent and of said charge conference, and that the organizing of a new</p>	<p>task forces as the charge conference may determine. Every local church shall develop a plan for organizing its administrative and programmatic responsibilities. Each local congregation shall provide a comprehensive program of nurture, outreach, and witness, along with leadership training, and the planning and administration of the congregation's organizational and temporal life, in accordance with the mission of The United Methodist Church (see ¶¶ 120-124). >VII: 226.001<</p> <p>2.1. The church council and all other administrative and programmatic structures of the local church shall be amenable to the charge conference (see ¶ 246). The church council shall function as the executive <u>unit</u> agency of the charge conference.</p> <p>3.2. [247.2] When circumstances so require, the charge conference may, in consultation with and upon the approval of the district superintendent, modify the organizational plans, provided that the provisions of BOD ¶ 247.2 are observed. Alternative plans may be developed in accordance with the provisions of ¶ 247.2. Such alternatives include: nurture, outreach, and witness ministries; administrative council; or administrative board/council on ministries. >VII: 226.002<</p> <p>[244] 4.3. Members of the church council or alternative structure shall be persons of genuine Christian character who love the church, are morally disciplined, are committed to the mandate of inclusiveness in the life of the church, are loyal to the ethical standards of The United Methodist Church set forth in the Social Principles, and are competent to administer its affairs. It shall include youth and young adult members chosen according to the same standards as adults. All persons with vote shall be members of the local church, except where central conference legislation provides otherwise. The pastor shall be the administrative officer and, as such, shall be an ex officio member of all conferences,</p>	<p>In ¶ 226.2: “unit” is in line with the language in the opening part of the paragraph.</p> <p>¶ 244 and 247.2 is adaptable to allow for contextualization of church structure.</p> <p>BOD 244Intro +261 > GBOD 226.001</p> <p>BOD 247.2 remainder > GBOD 226.002</p>
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<p>charge shall be subject at least to the agreement of the cabinet of the annual conference. All such newly organized churches shall be in accordance with local laws and other provisions of the <i>Discipline</i>. Jurisdictional conferences shall follow the procedures in Part VII of the <i>Discipline</i>. >VII: 226.003<</p> <p>6. Central conferences may establish provisions for ministry groups, units or institutional work on the level of the local church as it best serves the mission of the church, or delegate such authority to their respective annual conferences. Jurisdictional conferences shall follow the procedures in Part VII of the <i>Discipline</i>. >VII: 226.004-226.007<</p> <p>GBOD ¶ 226.1-2=244Intro+1; 226.3=247.2; 226.4=244.3; 226.5=259; 226.6=new</p> <p>3. See Judicial Council Decisions 469, 500.</p>	<p>boards, councils, commissions, committees, and task forces, unless otherwise restricted by the <i>Discipline</i>.³</p> <p><u>[259] 5. Central conferences may establish provisions for ministry groups, units or institutional work on the level of the local church as it best serves the mission of the church, or delegate such authority to their respective annual conferences. Jurisdictional conferences shall follow the procedures in Part VII of the <i>Discipline</i>. >VII: 226.003<</u></p> <p><u>6. Central conferences shall establish provisions, or delegate such authority to their respective annual conferences, for organizing a new church or a new charge, provided that the organizing of a new local church within a charge shall be subject at least to the agreement of the superintendent and of said charge conference, and that the organizing of a new charge shall be subject at least to the agreement of the cabinet of the annual conference. All such newly organized churches shall be in accordance with local laws and other provisions of the <i>Discipline</i>.</u></p> <p><u>Jurisdictional conferences shall follow the procedures in Part VII of the <i>Discipline</i>.</u></p> <p><u>>VII: 226.004-226.007<</u></p> <p>3. See Judicial Council Decisions 469, 500.</p>	<p>GBOD 226.5: essentials of ¶ 259 for flexible situations in central conferences.</p> <p>¶ 259 moved to adaptable part to allow for greater flexibility of beginning new local churches and missions in worldwide settings.</p> <p>GBOD226.6 essentials for flexibility in central conferences.</p> <p>BOD 259 > GBOD 226.003 BOD 206 > GBOD 226.004 BOD 207 > GBOD 226.005 BOD 212 > GBOD 226.006 BOD 213 > GBOD 226.007</p>
<p>¶ 227. <i>Transfer of a Local Church</i>—A local church may be transferred from one annual conference to another in which it is geographically located by a two-thirds vote of the professing members who are present and voting in each of the following: (1) the charge conference, (2) a congregational meeting of the local</p>	<p><i>Section VIII. Transfer of a Local Church</i></p> <p>[260] ¶ 227. <i>Transfer of a Local Church</i>- A local church may be transferred from one annual conference to another in which it is geographically located by a two-thirds vote of the professing members who are present and voting in</p>	

<p>church affected, and (3) each of the two annual conferences involved. Upon announcement of the required majorities by the bishop or bishops involved, the transfer shall immediately be effective. The votes required may originate in the local church or either of the annual conferences involved and shall be effective regardless of the order in which taken. >VII: 227.001< GBOD ¶ 227=260</p>	<p>each of the following: (1) the charge conference, (2) a congregational meeting of the local church, and (3) each of the two annual conferences involved. Upon announcement of the required majorities by the bishop or bishops involved, the transfer shall immediately be effective. The votes required may originate in the local church or either of the annual conferences involved and shall be effective regardless of the order in which taken. >VII: 227.001<</p>	
<p>Section V. The Charge Conference ¶ 228. <i>General Provisions</i>—1. Within the pastoral charge the basic unit in the connectional system of The United Methodist Church is the charge conference. The charge conference shall therefore be organized from the church or churches in every pastoral charge as set forth in the Constitution (¶ 43). It shall meet at least annually. 2. The membership of the charge conference shall be all members of the church council or other appropriate body, together with retired ordained clergy who elect to hold their membership in said charge conference and any others as may be designated in the <i>Discipline</i>, and other persons as elected by the charge conference. If more than one church is on the pastoral charge, all members of each church council shall be members of the charge conference. 3. The district superintendent shall fix the time of meetings of the charge conference. The charge conference shall determine the place of meeting. 4. The district superintendent shall preside at the meetings of the charge conference or may designate an elder to preside. 5. The members present and voting at any duly announced meeting shall constitute a quorum.</p>	<p><u>Section V. The Charge Conference</u> <i>THE CHARGE CONFERENCE</i></p> <p>Members of the charge conference shall be persons of genuine Christian character who love the Church, are morally disciplined, are committed to the mandate of inclusiveness in the life of the Church, are loyal to the ethical standards of The United Methodist Church set forth in the Social Principles, and are competent to administer its affairs. It shall include youth members chosen according to the same standards as adults. All shall be professing members of the local church, except where central conference legislation provides otherwise. The pastor shall be the administrative officer, and as such shall be an ex officio member of all conferences, boards, eouncils, commissions, committees, and task forces, unless restricted by the <i>Discipline</i>.</p> <p>[246] ¶ 228. <i>General Provisions</i>-1. Within the pastoral charge the basic unit in the connectional system of The United Methodist Church is the charge conference. The charge conference shall therefore be organized from the church or churches in every pastoral charge as set forth in the Constitution (¶ 43). It shall meet at least annually, for the purposes set forth in ¶ 247. It may meet at other times as indicated in § 7 below.</p>	<p>Deleted here See GBOD226.4</p>

6. Special sessions may be called by the district superintendent after consultation with the pastor of the charge. The purpose of such special session shall be stated in the call, and only such business shall be transacted as is in harmony with the purposes stated in the call. Any such special session of the charge conference may be convened as a church conference (GBOD ¶ 230).

7. Notice of time and place of a regular or special session of the charge conference shall be given at least ten days in advance.

8. A joint charge conference for two or more pastoral charges may be held at the same time and place, as the district superintendent may determine.

>VII: 228.001<

GBOD ¶ 228.1+2=246.1+2; 228.3-7=246.4-8;
228.8=246.10

2. The membership of the charge conference shall be all members of the church council or other appropriate body, together with retired ordained ~~clergy ministers and retired diaconal ministers~~ who elect to hold their membership in said charge conference and any others as may be designated in the Discipline and other persons as elected by the charge conference. If more than one church is on the pastoral charge, all members of each church council shall be members of the charge conference.

~~3. The charge conference may make provision for recognition of the faithful service of members of the church council by electing them honorary members. An honorary member shall be entitled to all the privileges of a member, except the right to vote.~~

~~3.4.~~ The district superintendent shall fix the time of meetings of the charge conference. The charge conference shall determine the place of meeting.

~~4.5.~~ The district superintendent shall preside at the meetings of the charge conference or may designate an elder to preside.

~~5.6.~~ The members present and voting at any duly announced meeting shall constitute a quorum.

~~6.7.~~ Special sessions may be called by the district superintendent after consultation with the pastor of the charge, ~~or by the pastor with the written consent of the district superintendent~~. The purpose of such special session shall be stated in the call, and only such business shall be transacted as is in harmony with the purposes stated in the call. Any such special session may be convened as a church conference ~~in accordance with ¶ 248(¶ 230)~~.

~~7.8.~~ Notice of time and place of a regular or special session of the charge conference shall be given at least ten days in advance, ~~by two or more of the following (except as local laws may otherwise provide): from the pulpit of the church, in its weekly bulletin, in a local~~

¶ 246.2 (on retired diaconal ministers), 246.3 and 246.9 moved to adaptable to allow flexibility around the language of the charge conference and

	<p>church publication, or by mail.</p> <p>9. A charge conference shall be conducted in the language of the majority, with adequate provision being made for translation.</p> <p>8.10: A joint charge conference for two or more pastoral charges may be held at the same time and place, as the district superintendent may determine.</p> <p>>VII: 228.001<</p>	<p>honorary members of charge conferences.</p> <p>BOD 246.2, 246.3, 246.9 > GBOD 228.001</p>
<p>¶ 229. <i>Powers and Duties</i>—1. The charge conference shall be the connecting link between the local church and the general Church and shall have oversight of the church council(s).</p> <p>2. The primary responsibilities of the charge conference in the annual meeting shall be to review and evaluate the total mission and ministry of the church (¶¶ 120-124), receive reports, and adopt objectives and goals recommended by the church council that are in keeping with the objectives of The United Methodist Church. The charge conference receives the report of the pastor in charge. >VII: 229.001<</p> <p>3. The charge conference recording secretary shall keep an accurate record of the proceedings, and with the presiding officer, shall sign the minutes. A copy of the minutes shall be provided for the district superintendent, and a permanent copy shall be retained for church files. >VII: 229.002<</p> <p>4. The charge conference shall examine and recommend candidates for licensed or ordained ministry to the Board of ordained ministry, faithfully adhering to the provisions of ¶ 309.2.c. >VII: 229.003<</p> <p>5. The charge conference shall examine and recommend renewal of candidates for the ordained ministry, faithfully adhering to the provisions of ¶ 309.2.c.</p> <p>6. The charge conference shall inquire annually into the gifts, labors, and usefulness of persons in</p>	<p>[247] ¶ 229. <i>Powers and Duties</i>-1. The charge conference shall be the connecting link between the local church and the general Church and shall have general oversight of the church council(s)</p> <p>2. The charge conference ... to be the church.</p> <p>2.3: The primary responsibilities of the charge conference in the annual meeting shall be to review and evaluate the total mission and ministry of the church (¶¶ 120-124), receive reports, and adopt objectives and goals recommended by the church council that are in keeping with the objectives of The United Methodist Church. <u>The charge conference receives the report of the pastor in charge.</u> >VII: 229.001<</p> <p>3.4: The charge conference recording secretary shall keep an accurate record of the proceedings and shall be the custodian of all records and reports, and with the presiding officer, shall sign the minutes. A copy of the minutes shall be provided for the district superintendent, and a permanent copy shall be retained for church files. When there is only one local church on a charge, the secretary of the church council shall be the secretary of the charge conference. When there is more than one church on a charge, one of the secretaries of the church councils shall be elected by the charge conference to serve as its secretary. >VII: 229.002<</p> <p>4.8: The charge conference shall examine and recommend <u>candidates for licensed or ordained ministry to the Board of district committee on</u> ordained ministry,</p>	<p>¶ 247.2 and 229.11 moved to adaptable and see above GBOD226.3 and GBOD226.002</p> <p>BOD 247.6,18, 19, 22>GBOD 229.001 BOD 247.4>GBOD 229.002</p> <p>For ¶ 247.5 and 247.7 see below GBOD231.11 und GBOD231.13</p> <p>¶ 247.6, 247.18, 247.19, 247.22 are adaptable around multiple church charges and satellite congregations.</p> <p>¶ 247.4, 247.5, 247.8, 247.10, 247.11, 247.12, 247.13, 247.14, 247.16 are adaptable around recommendation and support of candidates, charge conference reports and historians.</p>

specific lay servant ministries (§ 213) and recommend persons who have met the standards set forth for such ministries. >VII: 229.004<

7. The charge conference is responsible to fulfill the apportionment according to the rules set by the annual conference and the general church. Payment of these apportionments by local churches is the first benevolent responsibility of the church.

>VII: 229.005<

8. The charge conference shall receive and act on the annual report from the pastor concerning the membership.

9. In those instances where there are two or more local churches on a pastoral charge, the charge conference may provide for a charge or local church council, a charge or local church treasurer, and such other officers, commissions, committees, and task groups as necessary to carry on the work of the charge.

10. The charge conference shall promote awareness of and concurrence with the Doctrinal Standards and General Rules of the United Methodist Church, and with policies relative to Socially Responsible Investments ([BOD] § 717), the Social Principles (§§ 160-166), and *The Book of Resolutions of The United Methodist Church*.

11. If any charge conference initiates, joins, monitors, or terminates a boycott, the guidelines in *The Book of Resolutions* should be followed. The General Conference is the only body that can initiate, empower, or join a boycott in the name of The United Methodist Church. >VII: 229.006<

12. The charge conference shall have such other duties and responsibilities as the General, central, jurisdictional, or annual conference may duly commit to it. >VII: 229.007<

~~faithfully adhering to the provisions of § 310.1e§308.1- candidates for licensed or ordained ministry, who have been professing members in good standing of The United Methodist Church for at least one year; whose gifts, evidence of God's grace, and call to the ministry clearly establish them as candidates; and who have met the educational requirements. It is out of the faith and witness of the congregation that men and women respond to God's call to licensed or ordained ministry. Every local church should intentionally nurture candidates for licensed or ordained ministry, providing for spiritual and financial support, as well as supporting the Ministerial Education Fund, for their education and formation as servant leaders for the ministry of the whole people of God.~~>VII: 229.003<

~~5.9.~~ The charge conference shall examine and recommend, faithfully adhering to the provisions of GBOD § 313309.1, renewal of candidacy of candidates for the ordained ministry.

~~10. The charge conference shall examine and recommend to the responsible Church agency any candidates for Church-related vocations.~~

~~6.11.~~ The charge conference shall inquire annually into the gifts, labors, and usefulness of persons in specific lay servant ministries (§ 213) the lay servants and certified lay ministers related to the charge and recommend persons who have met the standards set forth for such ministries to the district and/or conference committee on Lay Servant Ministries those persons who have met the standards set forth for a local church lay servant and/or for certified lay servant and certified lay minister (§§ 266-269).>VII: 229.004<

~~12. The charge conference shall receive reports annually on all local church organized Volunteer In Mission (UMVIM) teams, and the total number of local church participants in any UMVIM team, and shall~~

BOD 247.8>GBOD 229.003

BOD 247.10-12, 16>GBOD 229.004

GBOD ¶ 229.1=247.1; 229.2-3=247.3-4; 229.4-5=247.8-9; 229.6=247.11; 229.7-8=247.14-15; 229.9=247.17; 229.10-11=247.20-21; 229.12=247.23

~~forward the combined report to the annual conference and the general church through the regular annual local church statistical report.~~

~~13. The charge conference shall in consultation with the district superintendent set the compensation of the pastor and other staff appointed by the bishop.~~

~~7.14. The charge conference is responsible to fulfill the apportionment according to the rules set by the annual conference and the general church. As soon as practicable after the session of annual conference, each district superintendent or designated agent shall notify each local church in the district what amounts have been apportioned to it for World Service, conference benevolences and other general Church, jurisdictional, and annual conference funds. In the event that the conference uses an apportionment formula whereby the local church contributes a specified percentage of its current income and/or expenses, the specified percentage may be used in lieu of an actual dollar amount. In preparation for and at the charge conference, it shall be the responsibility of the district superintendent, the pastor, and the lay member(s) of the annual conference and/or the church lay leader(s) to interpret to each charge conference the importance of these apportioned funds, explaining the causes supported by each of them and their place in the total program of the Church. The World Service Fund is basic in the financial program of The United Methodist Church. World Service on apportionment represents the minimum needs for the mission and ministry of the Church. Conference benevolences represent the minimum needs for mission and ministry in the annual conference. Payment in full of these apportionments by local churches is the first benevolent responsibility of the church—(¶ 812). >VII: 229.005<~~

~~8.15. The charge conference shall receive and act on~~

BOD 247.14>GBOD 229.005

the annual report from the pastor concerning the membership.-(See ¶ 231.)

~~16. The charge conference shall receive a report on the names and addresses of college students to send to the United Methodist campus ministers and chaplains.~~

9.17. In those instances where there are two or more local churches on a pastoral charge, the charge conference may provide for a charge or local church parish council, a chargewide or local church parish treasurer, and such other officers, commissions, committees, and task groups as necessary to carry on the work of the charge.

~~18. In those instances where there are two or more churches on a pastoral charge, the charge conference may elect a chargewide or parish committee on nominations and leadership development, a chargewide or parish committee on pastor parish relations, a chargewide or parish committee on finance, and a chargewide or parish board of trustees in such instances where property is held in common by two or more churches of the charge. All churches of the charge shall be represented on such chargewide or parish committees or boards. Chargewide or parish organization shall be consistent with disciplinary provisions for the local church.~~

~~19. In instances of multiple church charges, the charge conference shall provide for an equitable distribution of parsonage maintenance and upkeep expense or adequate housing allowance (if annual conference policy permits) among the several churches.~~

10.20. The charge conference shall promote awareness of and concurrence with the Doctrinal Standards and General Rules of The United Methodist Church, and with policies relative to Socially Responsible Investments (BOD¶ 717), the Social Principles (BOD¶¶ 160-166), and *The Book of Resolutions of The United Methodist Church*.

	<p>11.21. If any charge conference initiates, joins, monitors, or terminates a boycott, the guidelines in <i>The Book of Resolutions</i>, 2012, should be followed. The General Conference is the only body that can initiate, empower, or join a boycott in the name of The United Methodist Church. >VII: 229.006<</p> <p>22. When authorized by the district superintendent and the district board of church location and building, the charge conference may provide for the sponsoring of satellite congregations.</p> <p>12.23. The charge conference shall have such other duties and responsibilities as the General, <u>central</u>, jurisdictional, or annual conference may duly commit to it. >VII: 229.007<</p>	<p>BOD 247.5>GBOD 229.006</p> <p>BOD 247.13>GBOD 229.007</p>
<p>¶ 230. <i>The Church Conference</i>— To encourage broader participation by members of the church, the charge conference may be convened as a church conference, extending the vote to all professing members of the local church present at such meetings, subject to the authorization of the district superintendent. >VII: 230.001< GBOD ¶ 230=248</p>	<p>[248] ¶ 230. <i>The Church Conference</i>-To encourage broader participation by members of the church, the charge conference may be convened as <u>a the</u> church conference, extending the vote to all professing members of the local church present at such meetings, <u>subject to the authorization of.</u> The church conference shall be authorized by the district superintendent. It may be called at the discretion of the district superintendent or following a written request to the district superintendent by one of the following: the pastor, the church council, or 10 percent of the professing membership of the local church. In any case a copy of the request shall be given to the pastor. Additional regulations governing the call and conduct of the charge conference as set forth in ¶¶ 246-247 shall apply also to the church conference. A joint church conference for two or more churches may be held at the same time and place as the district superintendent may determine. A church conference shall be conducted in the language of the majority with adequate provision being made for translation. (For church local conference</p>	<p>BOD 249.7>GBOD 230.001</p>

	<p>see ¶ 2527.) >VII: 230.001<</p>	
<p>¶ 231. <i>Elections</i>—Out of the professing membership, the charge conference, or church conference authorized by the district superintendent, shall elect upon recommendation by the committee on nominations and leadership development, or by nomination from the floor, at least the following: >VII: 231.001<</p> <p>1. The church council and its chairperson (see ¶ 234). <i>a)</i> The church council chairperson shall be entitled to attend meetings of all boards and committees of the church unless specifically limited by the <i>Discipline</i>. >VII: 231.002<</p> <p>2. The committee on nominations and leadership development, chaired by the pastor in charge. Among its members shall be the pastor, the lay leader, and a lay member of the annual conference, and representation of each local church. <i>a)</i> Throughout the year, the committee shall identify, develop, deploy, evaluate, and monitor Christian leadership for the local congregation. <i>b)</i> It shall recommend to the charge conference the names of officers and leaders to be elected. >VII: 231.003<</p> <p>3. The committee on pastor-parish relations and its chairperson. It is composed of not fewer than five nor more than nine professing members of the local church, including the lay leader, a lay member of the annual conference, and representation of each local church. No staff member or immediate family member of a pastor or staff member may serve on the committee. Only one person from an immediate family residing in the same household shall serve on the committee. <i>a)</i> It shall assist the pastor and staff of the local church in assessing their gifts, maintaining health holistically, setting priorities for leadership and service,</p>	<p>[249] ¶ 231. <i>Elections of Leaders</i>—T—Out of the professing membership, the charge conference, or church conference authorized by the district superintendent, shall elect upon recommendation by the committee on nominations and leadership development of each local church on the pastoral charge, or by nomination from the floor and by vote of each such local church, at least the following leaders for the four basic responsibilities (¶ 244): >VII: 231.002<</p> <p>1. The church council and its chairperson (see ¶ 234). Chairperson of the church council. <i>a)</i> The church council chairperson shall be entitled to attend meetings of all boards and committees of the charge unless specifically limited by the <i>Discipline</i>.</p> <p>[249.2] 2. The committee on nominations and leadership development, chaired by the pastor in charge. Among its members shall be the pastor, the lay leader, and a lay member of the annual conference, and representation of each local church.</p> <p>[258.1] <i>a)</i> Throughout the year, the committee shall identify, develop, deploy, evaluate, and monitor Christian leadership for the local congregation. <i>b)</i>It shall recommend to the charge conference the names of officers and leaders to be elected. >VII: 231.003<</p> <p>[249.3] 3. The committee on pastor-parish relations and its chairperson. It is composed of not fewer than five nor more than nine professing members of the local church, including the lay leader, a lay member of the annual conference, and representation of each local church. No staff member or immediate family member of a pastor or staff member may serve on the committee. Only one person from an immediate family residing in the same household shall serve on the committee.</p>	<p>Comment: As GBOD231 is a combination of ¶ 249, ¶ 251, and ¶ 258, all text from ¶ 251 and ¶ 258 included in GBOD231 will be marked as addition in this opening part and marked as deleted in GBOD231.002 (old ¶ 251) and GBOD231.003 (old ¶ 258).</p> <p>¶ ¶ 249.4, 249.7, 251.1c-f, 251.2, 251.3, 258.1, 258.2, 258.3, 258.4 are adaptable to give more flexibility on how local churches are structured.</p> <p>¶ 258.5 > GBOD234.7</p> <p>BOD 251.3>GBOD 231.002 BOD 258.1>GBOD 231.003</p> <p>GBOD231.3a-b are essentials from ¶ 258.2g.</p>

<p>and provides evaluation at least annually and where needed develop job descriptions.</p> <p>b) It shall discern persons for ordained ministry and bring recommendations to the charge conference for candidacy.</p> <p>c) The pastor shall be present at each meeting of the committee except where he or she voluntarily excuses himself or herself. The committee may be called to meet without the pastor and/or staff under consideration only by and in presence of the district superintendent who shall notify the pastor and/or staff prior to the meeting and bring them into consultation immediately thereafter.</p> <p>d) The committee shall meet in closed session, and information shared in the committee shall be confidential. Its relationship to the district superintendent and the bishop is advisory only.⁴ >VII: 231.004<</p> <p>4. The committee on finance and its chairperson. Among its members shall be the pastor, the lay leader, and a lay member of the annual conference.</p> <p>a) It shall give stewardship of financial resources, submit a budget to the church council, and make provisions for an annual audit. >VII: 231.005<</p> <p>5. The Board of Trustees as provided in chapter six on <i>Church Property</i>, unless otherwise required by civil law. >VII: 231.006<</p> <p>6. The lay leader of the charge who shall function as the primary lay representative of the laity in that local church and shall have the following responsibilities:</p> <p>a) fostering awareness of the role of laity both within the congregation and through their ministries in the home, workplace, community, and world, and finding ways within the community of faith to recognize all these ministries;</p>	<p><u>a) It shall assist the pastor and staff of the local church in assessing their gifts, maintaining health holistically, setting priorities for leadership and service, and provides evaluation at least annually and where needed develop job descriptions.</u></p> <p><u>b) It shall discern persons for ordained ministry and bring recommendations to the charge conference for candidacy.</u></p> <p><u>[248.2e] c) The pastor shall be present at each meeting of the committee except where he or she voluntarily excuses himself or herself. The committee may be called to meet without the pastor and/or staff under consideration only by and in presence of the district superintendent who shall notify the pastor and/or staff prior to the meeting and bring them into consultation immediately thereafter.</u></p> <p><u>d) The committee shall meet in closed session, and information shared in the committee shall be confidential. Its relationship to the district superintendent and the bishop is advisory only.</u>⁴ >VII: 231.004<</p> <p><u>[249.4] 4. The committee on finance and its A chairperson and additional members of the committee on finance; the financial secretary and the church treasurer(s) if not paid employees of the local church; and the trustees as provided in ¶¶ 2526-2528, unless otherwise required by state law. Among its members shall be the pastor, the lay leader, and a lay member of the annual conference.</u></p> <p><u>a) It shall give stewardship of financial resources, submit a budget to the church council, and make provisions for an annual audit. >VII: 231.005<</u></p> <p><u>5. The Board of Trustees as provided in chapter six on Church Property, unless otherwise required by civil law. >VII: 231.006<</u></p>	<p>GBOD231.3c last sentence rephrased from BOD258.2e.</p> <p>GBOD231.3d = BOD258.2e+258g(11)</p> <p>BOD 258.2>GBOD 231.004</p> <p>BOD 258.4>GBOD 231.005</p> <p>BOD 258.3>GBOD 231.006</p>
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<p>b) meeting regularly with the pastor to discuss the state of the church and the needs for ministry; c) the lay leader may also be elected as lay member of annual conference. >VII: 231.007<</p> <p>7. The lay member(s) of the annual conference and alternates who shall be professing members 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, and other exceptions allowed by ¶ 32.⁵</p> <p>a) The lay member(s) of the annual conference and alternates shall, along with the pastor, serve as interpreter(s) of the actions and programs of the annual conference and the general Church.</p> <p>b) If the charge’s lay member of the annual conference shall cease to be a member of the charge or shall for any reason fail to serve, an alternate member in the order of election shall serve in place. >VII: 231.008<</p> <p>8. To insure for appropriate financial accountability for offerings and other income funds, there shall be elected both a financial secretary and a treasurer, if not paid employees of the local church.</p> <p>a) The financial secretary records and deposits donated funds, as well as other financial assets of the congregation at the direction of the church council. The treasurer disperses funds to authorized expenditures, at the direction of the church council. Thus no one person will oversee both income and expenditures of the local church accounts.</p> <p>b) No immediate family members of any appointed clergy may serve as treasurer, finance chair, financial secretary, counter, or serve in any paid or unpaid position under the responsibilities of the committee on finance, as described herein. These</p>	<p>[251.1] 6. <u>The lay leader of the charge who shall function as the primary lay representative of the laity in that local church and shall have the following responsibilities:</u></p> <p><u>a) fostering awareness of the role of laity both within the congregation and through their ministries in the home, workplace, community, and world, and finding ways within the community of faith to recognize all these ministries;</u></p> <p><u>b) meeting regularly with the pastor to discuss the state of the church and the needs for ministry;</u></p> <p><u>c) serving as the lay member of annual conference if so elected.</u> >VII: 231.007<</p> <p>[249.5] 7.5. <u>The lay member(s) of the annual conference and lay leader(s).</u> [251.2] and alternates who shall be professing members 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, and other exceptions allowed by ¶ 32.⁵</p> <p>[251.2] <u>a) The lay member(s) of the annual conference and alternates shall, along with the pastor, serve as interpreter(s) of the actions and programs of the annual conference and the general Church.</u></p> <p><u>b) If the charge’s lay member of the annual conference shall cease to be a member of the charge or shall for any reason fail to serve, an alternate member in the order of election shall serve in place.</u> >VII: 231.008<</p> <p>[258.4] <u>8. To insure for appropriate financial accountability for offerings and other income funds, there shall be elected both a financial secretary and a treasurer, if not paid employees of the local church.</u></p> <p><u>a) The financial secretary records and deposits donated funds, as well as other financial assets of the congregation at the direction of the church council. The</u></p>	<p>BOD 251.1>GBOD 231.007</p> <p>BOD 251.2>GBOD 231.008</p>
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<p>restrictions would apply only to the church or charge where the clergy serves. >VII: 231.009<</p> <p>9. The recording secretary.</p> <p>10. Additional members of the charge conference (see ¶ 228.2).</p> <p>11. It is recommended that the charge conference elect a church historian in order to preserve the history of each local church.</p> <p>12. All local church offices and all chairs of organizations within the local church may be shared between two persons, with the following exceptions: trustee, officers of the board of trustees, treasurer, lay member of annual conference, member and chairperson of the committee on pastor-parish relations. When two persons jointly hold a position that entails membership on the church council, both may be members of it.</p> <p>13. The term of office is according to the provisions of the annual conference. It is recommended that no officer serve more than three consecutive terms in the same office.</p> <p>GBOD ¶ 231 Intro+1=249 Intro+1+251.3; 231.2=249.2+258.1; 231.3= 249.3+258.2; 231.4=249.4+258.4; 231.5=249.4+258.3; 231.6=251.1; 231.7=249.5+251.2; 231.8=249.4+258.4; 231.9=249.6; 231.10 (new); 231.11=247.5; 231.12=249.8; 231.13=247.7</p> <p>4. See Judicial Council Decision 701.</p> <p>5. See Judicial Council Decisions 170, 305, 342, 469, 495.</p>	<p><u>treasurer disperses funds to authorized expenditures, at the direction of the church council. Thus no one person will oversee both income and expenditures of the local church accounts.</u></p> <p><u>b) No immediate family members of any appointed clergy may serve as treasurer, finance chair, financial secretary, counter, or serve in any paid or unpaid position under the responsibilities of the committee on finance, as described herein. These restrictions would apply only to the church or charge where the clergy serves.</u> >VII: 231.009<</p> <p>9.6. A The recording secretary (see ¶ 247.4).</p> <p><u>10. Additional members of the charge conference (see ¶ 228.2).</u></p> <p><u>11. It is recommended that the charge conference elect a church historian in order to preserve the history of each local church.</u></p> <p>7. Special attention shall be given to the inclusion of women, men, youth, young adults, persons over sixty-five years of age, persons with disabilities, and racial and ethnic persons.</p> <p>12.8. All local church offices and all chairs of organizations within the local church may be shared between two persons, with the following exceptions: trustee, officers of the board of trustees, treasurer, lay member of annual conference, member and chairperson of the committee on staff or pastor-parish relations. When two persons jointly hold a position that entails membership on the church council, both may be members of it.</p> <p><u>13. The term of office is according to the provisions of the annual conference. It is recommended that no officer serve more than three consecutive terms in the same office.</u></p>	<p>BOD 258.4>GBOD 231.009</p>
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	<p>4. See Judicial Council Decision 701. 5. See Judicial Council Decisions 170, 305, 342, 469, 495.</p>	<p>GBOD231.8 with essentials from ¶ 258.4.</p>
<p>¶ 232. <i>Removal of Officers and Filling of Vacancies</i>— If a leader or officer who has been elected by the charge conference is unable or unwilling to perform the duties reasonably expected of such a leader or officer, the district superintendent may call a special session of the charge conference. The purpose of such special session shall be stated as “Consideration for the removal of person(s) from office and the election of person(s) to fill vacancy(ies).” >VII: 232.001< GBOD ¶ 232=250</p>	<p>[250] ¶ 232. <i>Removal of Officers and Filling of Vacancies</i>-If a leader or officer who has been elected by the charge conference is unable or unwilling to perform the duties reasonably expected of such a leader or officer, the district superintendent may call a special session of the charge conference in accordance with ¶ 246.7. The purpose of such special session shall be stated as “Consideration for the removal of person(s) from office and the election of person(s) to fill vacancy(ies).” The committee on nominations and leadership development (¶¶ 258.1, 247.18) shall meet as soon as possible after the special session of the charge conference has been announced and shall propose person(s) who may be elected if vacancy(ies) occur at the charge conference. If the charge conference votes to remove a person or persons from office, the vacancy(ies) shall be filled in the manner prescribed for elections in accordance with ¶ 249. When a local church trustee is under consideration for removal and the pastoral charge consists of two or more churches, a church local conference shall be called instead of a charge conference, in accordance with ¶ 2526. >VII: 232.001<</p>	<p>BOD 250>GBOD 232.001</p>
<p>¶ 233. <i>Missional Potential</i>—In central conferences, the charge conference may organize ministries according to missional needs and potential. It may elect a coordinator or ministry group chairperson for any or all of its areas of ministry. Jurisdictional conferences shall follow the procedures in Part VII of the <i>Discipline</i>. >VII: 233.001-233.005< GBOD ¶ 233=253+254</p>	<p>[253] ¶ 233. <i>Missional Potential</i>- The charge conference may organize ministries according to missional needs and potential. It may elect a coordinator or ministry group chairperson for any or all of its areas of ministry. <u>>VII: 233.001-233.005<</u></p>	<p>¶ 253 to 257 are adaptable to allow for flexibility in local church structure. BOD 253 > GBOD 233.001 BOD 254 > GBOD 233.002 BOD 255 > GBOD 233.003 BOD 256 > GBPD 233.004 BOD 257 > GBOD 233.005</p>

Section VI. The Church Council

¶ 234. *The Church Council-* 1. *Purpose*—The church council shall provide for planning and implementing a program of nurture, outreach, witness, and resources in the local church. It shall also provide for the administration of its organization and temporal life. It shall envision, plan, implement, and annually evaluate the mission and ministry of the church.

2. *Mission and Ministry* — Nurture, outreach, and witness ministries and their accompanying responsibilities include:

a) The nurturing ministries include: education, worship, Christian formation, membership care, small groups, and stewardship.

b) The outreach ministries include: local and larger community ministries of compassion, justice, and advocacy.

c) The witness ministries include: developing and strengthening evangelistic efforts of sharing of personal and congregational stories of Christian experience, faith, and service; and communications.

>VII: 234.001<

3. *Meetings* — The council shall meet at least quarterly. The chairperson or the pastor may call special meetings. >VII: 234.002<

4. *Responsibilities* — It will be the responsibility of the church council to:

a) give adequate consideration to the missional purpose of the church; encourage, plan and set the goals of the local church; determine activities and work; receive reports and evaluate the ministry;

b) review the membership of the local church;

c) fill interim vacancies occurring among the lay officers of the church between sessions of the annual charge conference;

Section VI. The Church Council

THE CHURCH COUNCIL

[252] ¶ 234. *The Church Council-* 1. *Purpose*-The church council shall provide for planning and implementing a program of nurture, outreach, witness, and resources in the local church. It shall also provide for the administration of its organization and temporal life. It shall envision, plan, implement, and annually evaluate the mission and ministry of the church. ~~The church council shall be amenable to and function as the administrative agency of the charge conference (¶ 244).~~

2. *Mission and Ministry*-Nurture, outreach, and witness ministries and their accompanying responsibilities include:

a) The nurturing ministries include: ~~of the congregation shall give attention to but not be limited to~~ education, worship, Christian formation, membership care, small groups, and stewardship. ~~Attention must be given to the needs of individuals and families of all ages.~~

b) The outreach ministries include: ~~of the church shall give attention to~~ local and larger community ministries of compassion, justice, and advocacy. ~~These ministries include church and society, global ministries, higher education and campus ministry, health and welfare, Christian unity and interreligious concerns, religion and race, and the status and role of women.~~

c) The witness ministries include: ~~of the church shall give attention to~~ developing and strengthening evangelistic efforts of sharing of personal and congregational stories of Christian experience, faith, and service; and ~~communications; Lay Servant Ministries; and other means that give expressions of witness for Jesus Christ.~~

d) ~~The leadership development and resourceing ministries shall give attention to the ongoing preparation~~

¶ 252.2d-e, 252.3.b, 252.4.e, 252.5, 262, 263, and 264 are adaptable to allow flexibility for local church structure and special offerings.

	<p>salary and other remuneration of the pastor(s) and staff members after receiving recommendations from the committee on pastor-parish relations (staff-parish relations) <u>if these are not set by the annual conference;</u></p> <p>e) review the recommendation of the committee on pastor-parish relations regarding provision of adequate housing for the pastor(s), and report the same to the charge conference for approval. Housing provisions shall comply with the annual conference housing policy and parsonage standards. Housing shall not be considered as part of compensation or remuneration except to the extent provided for in denominational pension and benefit plans.</p> <p>5. <i>Membership</i>-The charge conference will determine the size of the church council. Members of the church council shall be involved in the mission and ministry of the congregation as defined in ¶ 252.2. The membership of the council may consist of as few as eleven persons or as many as the charge conference deems appropriate. The council shall include persons who represent the program ministries of the church as outlined in ¶ 243. The membership shall include but not be limited to the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) the chairperson of the church council; b) the lay leader; e) the chairperson and/or a representative of the pastor-parish relations committee; d) the chairperson and/or a representative of the committee on finance; e) the chairperson and/or a representative of the board of trustees; f) the church treasurer; c) a lay member to annual conference; h) the president and/or a representative of the United Methodist Men; i) the president and/or a representative of the 	<p>BOD 252.4.e>GBOD 234.003</p>
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	<p>United Methodist Women; j) a young adult representative k) a representative of the United Methodist Youth; <u>d) the pastor(s).</u> <u>e) the secretary of the charge conference;</u> <u>f) other members as elected by the charge conference. >VII: 234.004<</u></p> <p>6. <i>Quorum</i>-The members present and voting at any duly announced meeting shall constitute a quorum.</p> <p>7. <u>The church council may appoint additional committees as it deems advisable.</u> <u>>VII: 234.005-234.008<</u></p>	<p>BOD 252.5>GBOD 234.004 BOD 262>GBOD 234.005 BOD 263>GBOD 234.006 BOD 264>GBOD 234.007 BOD 262>GBOD 234.008</p>
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