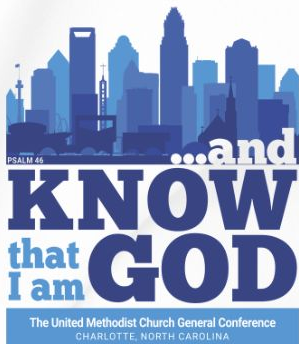


# NIC-General Conference Delegation Debrief



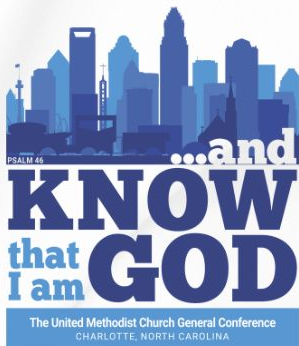
General Conference Debriefing



Not in  
picture-

Lonnie  
Chafin

Britt  
Cox

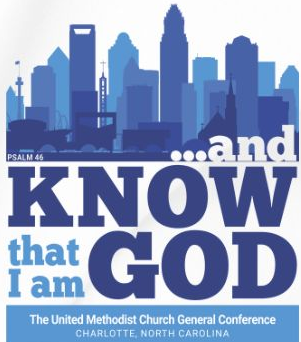


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# Agenda

- ✓ Introduce Delegates
- ✓ 45-50 minutes we will share
- ✓ 45-50 minutes we will answer questions
- ✓ take a 10 minute break in between
- ✓ Index cards for your questions



General Conference Debriefing



# WHAT IS REGIONALIZATION?

- Adapt portions of the *Book of Discipline*. This ability is already in place in the central conferences; regionalization will bring that ability to the U.S. as well.
- Nine regional conferences will comprise The UMC: one in the U.S. and eight in Africa, Europe and the Philippines.
- Regionalization was developed collaboratively by United Methodists across the globe. It received support from delegates from every region.

Recap on  
the 3 R's

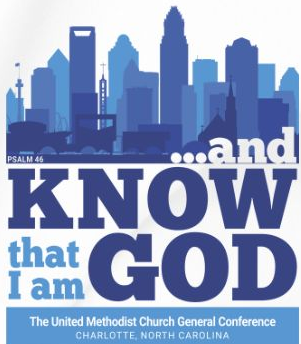


**Regionalization creates equity across the Church without privileging one region as the center and others as peripheries.**

# REMOVAL of HARMFUL language

Recap on  
the 3 R's

- Funding ban for LGBTQIA+ ministries removed
- Restrictions on Ordination of queer clergy persons removed
- Removal of mandatory minimum penalties for clergy holding same-sex weddings
  - Traditional plan repealed
  - Reinstatement process created



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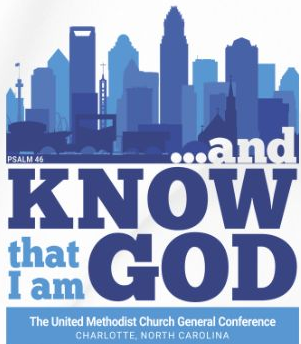


# Social Principles REVISED

Recap on  
the 3 R's

- **not church law**
- intended to inform United Methodists on matters of the day with a biblical foundation.
- First overhaul of Social Principles in nearly 50 years.

for more information:



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# Disaffiliations

- Paragraph 2553 that was created as a special process for disaffiliation is GONE!

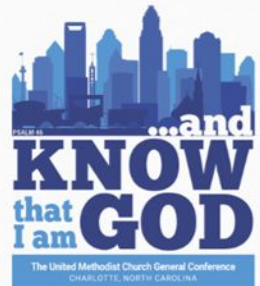


# What MORE???



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# **HARMFUL Language REMOVED from Discipline**

- **Funding ban for LGBTQ+ ministries removed**
- **Ordination Restrictions removed**
- **Removed penalties for officiating same-gender weddings**

# **HARMFUL Language REMOVED from Discipline**

- **Removed ban on same gender weddings from UMC church buildings**
- **Removed mandatory minimum penalties established by the 2019 Traditional Plan**
- **Incapability Clause removed from Discipline**

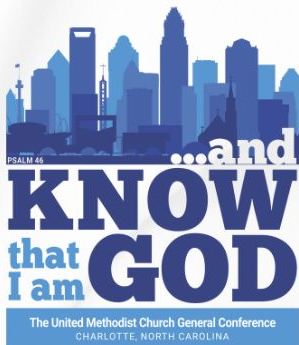
# Pathway to RETURN for CLERGY

- Pathway created for clergy stripped of license or orders due to being LGBTQ+ or celebrating same gender marriages created.

# Pathway to RETURN for CLERGY

- Persons have one year to request licenses or orders to be restored.
- If an annual conference does not restore the license or orders, requesting another Annual conference is possible.

# Budget, Apportionments and New Pension Plan in US

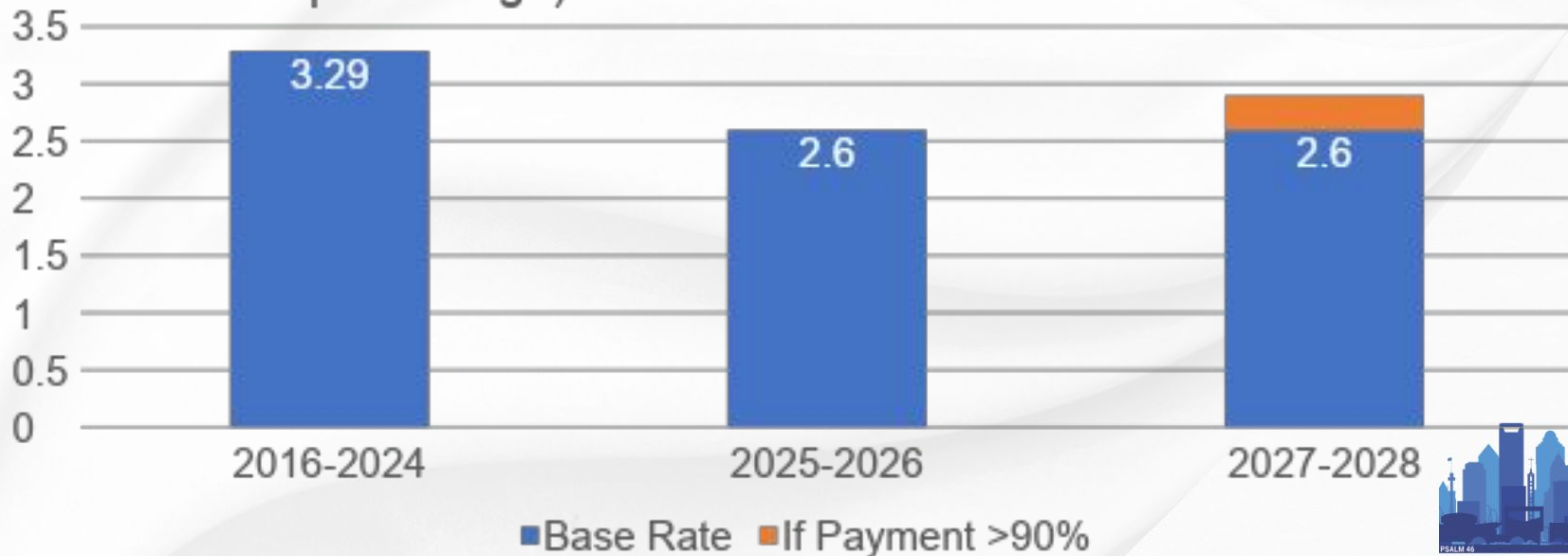


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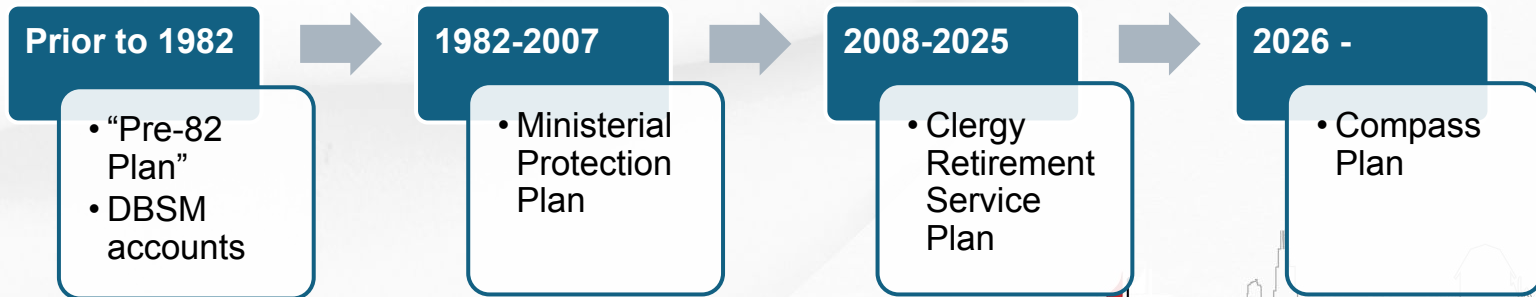
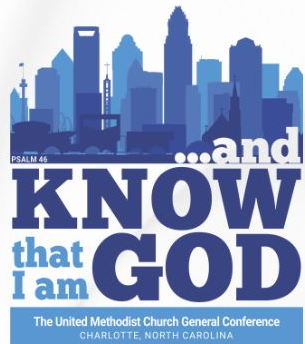
# Change in General Church Apportionments

Local Church Statistics on Church operations times (in percentage):



# New Pension Plan

- Clergy serving multiple years will be enrolled in multiple pension plans, based upon the year they worked.
- Only service years of 2026 and after will earn benefits through the Compass framework.



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# RACIAL JUSTICE

## How United Methodists stand against RACISM



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# RACIAL JUSTICE

- 5<sup>th</sup> focus added to OUR MISSIONAL STRATEGIES to eliminate racism, racial inequity, colonialism, white privilege, and white supremacy within the Church and our society.

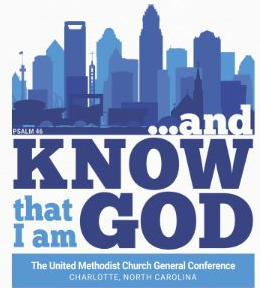
- Disability Ministries Committee **RACIAL JUSTICE** was reinstated and placed under GCORR.
- call to educate about the root causes and manifestations of racism, ethnocentrism, and tribalism and develop strategies for overcoming these kinds of social divisions.

# Constitutional Amendments

Constitutional amendments all passed 2020/24 General Conference by at least **2/3 of total voting members**



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# Constitutional Amendments

- **Racial Justice (¶15)**
- **Include 'gender' and 'ability' (¶14)**
- **Edit of the educational requirements for voting privileges to elect clergy delegates to General Conference (¶35)**
- **Worldwide Regionalization**

**Voting members in annual  
conferences across the globe  
will vote on amendment adoption  
NIC at 2025 Annual Conference**



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**A constitutional amendment will pass if **2/3 of total voting members** of all of the annual conferences combined support the amendment**



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# Regionalization: Effective ministry in every culture



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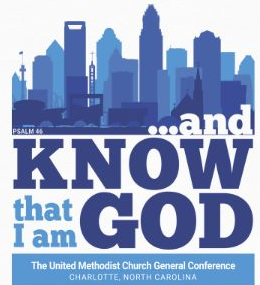


Why is it named “**regional conference**” rather than a “**central conference**”

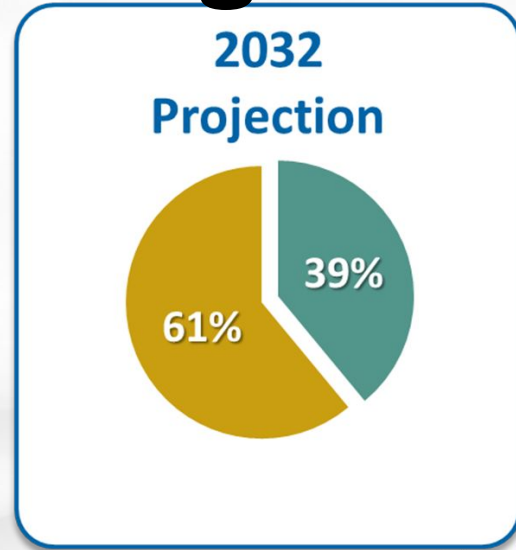
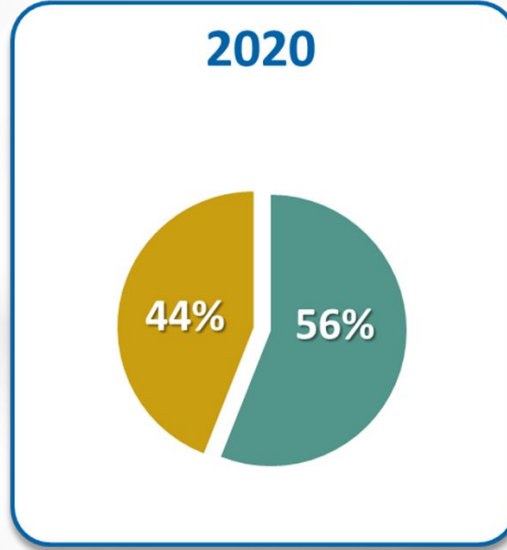
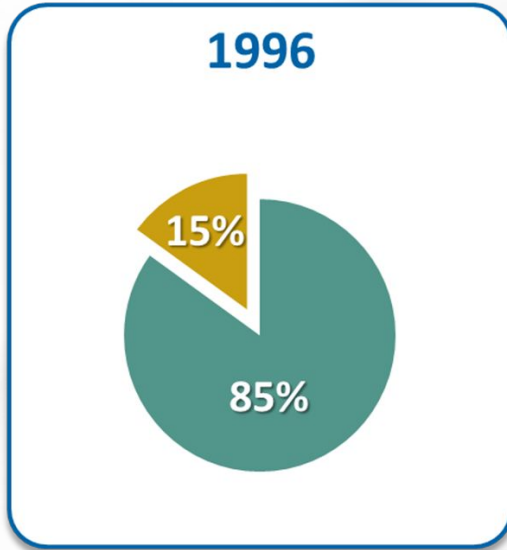


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# General Conference Delegates



■ U.S. Conferences    ■ All Other Conferences



**Regionalization creates equity across the Church without privileging one region as the center and others as peripheries.**

# All regional conferences **share:**

- **Constitution**
- **Doctrinal Standards and  
Our Theological Task**
- **The Ministry of All Christians**
- **Social Principles**

# Fully maintained:

- The Council of Bishops
- Judicial Council
- General Agencies
- General Conference
- Jurisdictional Conferences

# A regional conference CAN:

- Draft and publish their own regional Book of Discipline, hymnals, books of worship and other liturgical resources
- Set requirements for ordination and licensed ministry with respect to their needs and resources
- Set standards for lay membership



# A regional conference CAN:

- Develop practices around marriage ceremonies, funerals and other rites that align with cultural contexts and laws in each country
- Reorganize their annual conferences, districts or charge conferences to best serve their missional needs and convene their own judicial courts
- Work with annual conferences to ensure policies and practices align with the laws in each country





# Regionalization Provides

- **Efficiency**
- **Consistency**
- **Fairness**
- **Preservation**
- **Equity**

**Voting members in annual  
conferences across the globe  
will vote on amendment adoption  
NIC at 2025 Annual Conference**



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# BREAK

## Let us be back in 10 minutes



### General Conference Debriefing



# General Book of Discipline will **share**:

- **Part I Constitution**
- **Part II Doctrinal Standards**
- **Part III Our Theological Task**
- **Part IV The Ministry of All Christians**
- **Part V Social Principles**

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# General Book of Discipline

- **Part VI will be divided into 2**

# General Book of Discipline

## New Part VI

- **General Organization and Administration**
- **Essential for a worldwide church that cannot be adapted**

# General Book of Discipline

## New Part VII

- Additional Organization and Administration sections that will be adaptable by 'regional' conferences
- To learn more-



## General Book of Discipline



## Revised Social Principles



# Questions



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Your delegation **THANKS YOU**  
for your support

**Closing Prayer**



**To learn more:**

**General Conference Debriefing**

