

Oregon-Idaho Annual Conference 2017

Late Action Requests

This packet contains one proposed substitute motion and three late action requests

Proposed Substitute:

- AR-8 is a proposed substitute for AR-7: Abundant Health Task Force Formation

Late Legislative Items:

- AR-9 Call for a Special Session of the Western Jurisdictional Conference
- R-10 We Are a Church for All God's Children
- SR-11 One Body in Christ: Affirming LGBTQI Clergy

Late action requests submitted to the legislative coordinator are dealt with under Conference Rule 2.042

Rule 2.042

*Action Requests arriving later than 75 days before Annual Conference will be assigned to the Legislative Assembly, possibly without prior posting to the website or mailing to Legislative Assembly members. If they arrive after the Legislative Assembly has dispersed, the Sessions Committee and the Legislative Coordinators may reconvene the Legislative Assembly immediately before Annual Conference at the Annual Conference site to deal with this legislation. **These action requests will appear before the full membership only as recommended by the Legislative Assembly.***

AR-8 (Substitute for AR-7)

1 **TITLE: Abundant Health Task Force Formation (SUBSTITUTE MOTION)**

2 **SPONSORING GROUP OR INDIVIDUAL: Ministry Leadership Team**

3 **SPOKESPERSON: Lowell Greathouse, on behalf of the Ministry Leadership Team**

4 **SPOKESPERSON'S ADDRESS: 1505 SW 18th Avenue, Portland, OR 97201**

5 **SPOKESPERSON'S E-MAIL: Lowell@umoi.org**

6 **SPOKESPERSON'S TELEPHONE: 503-802-9207**

8
9 **We are united by Jesus's words in John 10:10, "I came that they may have life, and have it**
10 **abundantly." God calls his church to the ministry of healing. No one alone has the resources**
11 **necessary to fulfill the promise of Abundant Health. Therefore, we seek to engage at least 10,000**
12 **churches to develop support systems that support abundant health within their communities,**
13 **especially the well-being and health of women and children. Churches can contribute locally to the**
14 **health of all God's children in their communities and the health of children around the world.**

15 **— General Board of Global Ministries, www.umcabundanthealth.org/about**

16
17 **I/We petition the Oregon-Idaho Annual conference to take the following action:**

18 Become an Abundant Health Annual Conference by participating in the General Board of Global Ministries
19 Abundant Health Initiative in the following manner:

20
21 The Annual Conference will establish an Abundant Health Task Force to lead, inform, and guide the work of the
22 conference and encourage local churches to participate in the United Methodist Church Abundant Health
23 Initiative.

24
25 As a key element of this work, the task force will invite local churches to engage in abundant health efforts
26 today as we build our conference's connectional response. Congregations will also be encouraged to become
27 part of the 10,000 Church Challenge, by initiating and/or enhancing community-based ministry opportunities
28 for healthy lifestyle choices. Illustrations of what is involved in the Abundant Health Initiative can be found at
29 www.umcabundanthealth.org

30
31 The Abundant Health Task Force will work under the auspices of the Ministry Leadership Team (MLT) and
32 report its work to that body on a regular basis. The MLT will name an Abundant Health Coordinator and the
33 members of the Task Force with input from the Board of Lay Ministries, the Appointive Cabinet, and the
34 bishop. The UMW President or a designee shall be a member of the task force.

35 **SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

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38 **What will this action accomplish?**

39 Abundant Health will enhance and expand intentional ministries focused on the mental, physical, emotional,
40 and spiritual health of the people in our churches, our local communities, and around the world. Abundant
41 Health will also demonstrate what is possible in the world of public health through the power and influence of
42 a global, faith-driven, multimillion-member, connectional organization such as The United Methodist Church.
43 The global goal is to reach 1 million children with lifesaving and health-promoting measures by 2020.

44
45 The Abundant Health initiative seeks to build on existing energy within Oregon-Idaho churches by starting new
46 Abundant Health-related ministries and/or enhancing and extending the current Abundant Health-related
47 ministries in which churches are already engaged.

AR-8 (Substitute for AR-7)

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Why is it important?

At General Conference 2016, the General Board of Global Missions (GBGM) launched the Abundant Health Initiative. In addition to asking us all to give to mission in ways that improve children and maternal health around the globe, the 10,000 Church Challenge was announced. This GBGM-sponsored challenge seeks to engage 10,000 churches to develop support systems for health care treatment, education, and prevention in our communities.

We invite all churches in Oregon and Idaho to participate in this challenge by engaging their congregation and community in health enhancing ministries through:

- Physical activity,
- Healthy diet and nutrition,
- Tobacco and drug-free living, and/or
- Mental health education and promotion.

Abundant Health seeks to make a spiritual connection with individuals and communities, enhance the spiritual development of our congregation, and enhance the lives of the people touched by the ministries provided in very real and tangible ways.

Christ came to bring abundant life, his calling we embody,
Each time we touch the heart and soul; and heal the broken body.
—Rev. Tim Winslea

How will it be carried out? By whom?

The General Board of Global Ministries is leading the Abundant Health initiative (www.umcabundanthealth.org). For the Oregon-Idaho Conference, the Abundant Health Task Force will oversee the Abundant Health initiative and provide support by educating, resourcing, encouraging, and engaging local churches and campus and campus ministries.

The Abundant Health Task Force will report to the Ministry Leadership Team on a regular basis.

How much will it cost? Where will the money come from?

The Abundant Health Task Force has a \$5,000 budget included within the AC Global Mission Team budget to support meeting and program expenses in 2018 and Mission and Ministry funds will be used in 2017 in order to help begin this work.

AR-9

1 **TITLE: Call for a Special Session of the Western Jurisdictional Conference**

2 **SPONSORING GROUP OR INDIVIDUAL: Western Methodist Justice Movement and Oregon-**
3 **Idaho Methodist Federation for Social Action**

4 **SPOKESPERSON: Karen Nelson**

5 **SPOKESPERSON'S ADDRESS: 1367 Erika Ave. NE, Keizer, OR 97303**

6 **SPOKESPERSON'S E-MAIL: pastorkaren@gknelson.net**

7 **SPOKESPERSON'S TELEPHONE: 503-957-6815**

9
10 **I/We petition the Oregon-Idaho Annual conference to take the following action:**

11 **WHEREAS** the Western Jurisdiction College of Bishops has declared in its response to Judicial
12 Council decision 1341:

13
14 We shall continue to pray for the work of the Commission on a Way Forward, as they
15 lead us into a new vision for our life together as The United Methodist Church. Our
16 church;

17 **WHEREAS** ¶ 521.2 of *The Book of Discipline 2016* gives the College of Bishops the authority by
18 two-thirds vote “to call a special session of the Jurisdictional Conference when necessary;”

19
20 **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Oregon-Idaho Annual Conference petitions the
21 Western Jurisdictional College of Bishops to call a special session of the Western Jurisdictional
22 Conference following the release of the report of the Commission on a Way Forward and prior to the
23 specially called 2019 session of the General Conference for the following purposes:

- 24
25 1. *To strategize ways of working together jurisdictionally at General Conference*
26 *2019; and*
27
28 2. *To prayerfully consider how we can most faithfully continue to be a home for all God's*
29 *people, gathered around a table of reconciliation and transformation in the light of*
30 *the Commission's recommendations.*

31
32 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** the College of Bishops be urged to appoint a special
33 planning team that will: 1) consider creative ways of minimizing the cost of a specially called session;
34 and 2) find creative sources for funding a specially called session.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

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38 The Commission on a Way Forward will be bringing proposals to the specially called session of the
39 General Conference in 2019 that may significantly change the identity and structure of The United
40 Methodist Church;

41 The Western Jurisdiction of The United Methodist Church has long affirmed that God is calling it to
42 be:

43 *A home for all God's people, gathered around a table of reconciliation and*
44 *transformation: the Western Jurisdiction of The United Methodist Church is*

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1 multicultural and inclusive, engaged in the life of its communities, with confident,
2 effective lay and clergy leadership who, in diverse ministry settings, form disciples
3 who live out the Good News of Jesus as global citizens (Our Emerging Vision);

4
5 The Western Jurisdiction College of Bishops has declared in its recent response to Judicial Council
6 decision 1341:

7
8 We the people called United Methodist in the Western Jurisdiction witness daily the
9 gifts and reflections of God's grace in LGBTQ persons who faithfully serve among us
10 as lay leaders, pastors, district superintendents, and now, as a bishop.

11
12 Our experience informs how we do ministry together, how Boards of Ordained
13 Ministry approach their work, and how we carry out our episcopal duties.

14
15 Our life together in Jesus Christ has been enriched by the fullness of their presence
16 and participation. We recognize that we in the church have differing views of what
17 full inclusion means. Even in the West we are not of one mind. Nevertheless, we
18 believe Christ calls us to live and serve together as one even in our differences.

19
20 Our Christian experience teaches us that God's love is wide enough for all of us.

21
22 It is not always easy for us to hold relationship with those whose understandings differ
23 from us, but John Wesley encourages us to remember: "We don't have to think alike
24 to love alike."

25
26 There is much work to be done before we the church are able to love as Jesus has
27 loved us.

28
29 We in the Western Jurisdiction will continue to be a home for all God's beloved as we
30 strive to be faithful disciples of Jesus the Christ.

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33 **How will it be carried out? By whom?**

34 This action will be carried out by the College of Bishops of the Western Jurisdiction and the Jurisdictional
35 Leadership Team.

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37 **How much will it cost? Where will the money come from?**

38 The final cost is yet to be determined and will be the responsibility of the Jurisdictional Conference.
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SR-10

1 **TITLE: We Are a Church for All God's Children**
2 **SPONSORING GROUP OR INDIVIDUAL: Oregon-Idaho Methodist Federation for Social**
3 **Action and Oregon-Idaho Reconciling United Methodists**
4 **SPOKESPERSON: Karen Nelson**
5 **SPOKESPERSON'S ADDRESS: 1367 Erika Ave. NE, Keizer, OR 97303**
6 **SPOKESPERSON'S E-MAIL: pastorkaren@gknelson.net**
7 **SPOKESPERSON'S TELEPHONE: 503-957-6815**
8 **This petition is A New Standing Resolution**

9
10 We, the People called United Methodists in the Oregon-Idaho Annual Conference, continue
11 to be on a journey to fully welcome all of God's beloved children to our life and ministry as
12 part of the Body of Christ. We affirm, as stated in the Vision Statement of the Western
13 Jurisdiction, that we are "A home for all God's people, gathered around a table of
14 reconciliation and transformation."

15 We affirm the prophetic voice of the Western Jurisdictional Conference of The United
16 Methodist Church in extending radical hospitality to all:

17 We cannot accept discrimination against gay, lesbian, bisexual or transgender
18 persons and therefore, we will work toward their full participation at all levels in
19 the life of the church and society. Valuing the voices of those who disagree,
20 we will continue to be in dialogue as we journey together in creative tension.
21 We will continue to be in ministry with all God's children and celebrate the gifts
22 diversity brings. We will continue to feast at table with all God's children. (2000
23 Western Jurisdictional Conference)

24 We open our doors to all persons regardless of sexual orientation or gender
25 identity, we open our hearts to those who have been shunned, we open our
26 minds to radical obedience to the Gospel of Jesus Christ, even when at odds
27 with The Book of Discipline, in order to further the work of God's justice and
28 the creation of the beloved community. As a Welcoming and Reconciling
29 Jurisdiction we will take steps of inclusion in the sacred trust of marriage,
30 ordination, and leadership roles for all. (2012 Western Jurisdictional
31 Conference)

32 On May 4, 2017, in response to Judicial Council Decision 1341, the College of Bishops of the
33 Western Jurisdiction issued a pastoral letter – "A Message to The United Methodist Church
34 from the Western Jurisdiction College of Bishops". We fully support our bishops' statement
35 and we rejoice with them in celebrating "the good news that Bishop Karen Oliveto is
36 continuing to lead the Mountain Sky Area of The United Methodist Church."

37

38 We recognize, with our bishops, that "For many years, the Western part of the United States
39 has been a refuge for LGBTQ persons from across the US and around the world. Our region

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1 is a place where they can live fully into who God has created them to be, free from
2 discrimination, violence, and closets.”

3 With our bishops and fellow United Methodists in the Western Jurisdiction, we “witness daily
4 the gifts and reflections of God’s grace in LGBTQ persons who faithfully serve among us as
5 lay leaders, pastors, district superintendents, and now, as a bishop.” We affirm their belief
6 that what we continue to witness “informs how we do ministry together” and “how Boards of
7 Ordained Ministry approach their work.” We, in turn, are witnesses that the ministry entrusted
8 to us “has been enriched by the fullness of their presence and participation.”

9 Therefore, as a pilgrim people who rest only in the boundless of grace of God in Jesus
10 Christ, we will seek to walk together, even in the tension of our differences, and join our
11 bishops in striving “to be a home for all God’s beloved.”

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SUPPORTING INFORMATION

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What will this action accomplish?

14 This action will affirm our intentions to stand with all God’s children and to support our Western Jurisdiction as
15 it seeks to be in ministry with all.
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Why is it important?

17 The United Methodist Church across the world needs to hear our voices.
18

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How will it be carried out? By whom?

20 This statement will be published in our conference journal and will be available for others to use in their work
21 in and beyond the United Methodist Church as a statement of our understanding of God at work in our lives.
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How much will it cost? Where will the money come from?

24 Cost of publication in the journal.
25

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SR-11

1 **TITLE: One Body in Christ: Affirming LGBTQI Clergy**

2 **SPONSORING GROUP OR INDIVIDUAL: Oregon-Idaho Reconciling United Methodists**

3 **SPOKESPERSON: Deborah Maria, Jeanne Knepper**

4 **SPOKESPERSON'S ADDRESS: 773 Nicole Drive, West Linn OR 97068; 14945 SE**
5 **Center St, Portland OR 97236**

6 **SPOKESPERSON'S E-MAIL: yourbest@juno.com; jgknepper@comcast.net**

7 **SPOKESPERSON'S TELEPHONE: 503-723-0058; 503-709-4107**

8 **This petition is a New Standing Resolution**

11 **Text of the Standing Resolution as it would appear in the Conference Journal:**

12 The Apostle Paul reminds us, along with the church of Corinth, that we are all one in Christ, one body
13 with many diverse and beautiful members:

14 *Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but of many. If the foot would say, 'Because I am not a*
15 *hand, I do not belong to the body,' that would not make it any less a part of the body. And if the ear*
16 *would say, 'Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body,' that would not make it any less a part*
17 *of the body. As it is, there are many members, yet one body. The eye cannot say to the hand, "I have no*
18 *need of you," nor again the head to the feet, "I have no need of you." (1 Corinthians 12:14-16, 20-21).*

19 None of us is dispensable and none of us is unworthy of full membership in the body of Christ or in
20 the life and ministries of the church.

21 Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Intersex clergy serve our churches faithfully and diligently,
22 forming "disciples of Christ for the transformation of the world." They bring unique gifts and grace to
23 the people they serve, as well as demonstrating the gifts, graces, and fruits of ministry required of all
24 clergy. LGBTQI clergy have suffered spiritual and psychic harm because our denomination, still on a
25 journey toward spiritual perfection, has not yet removed discrimination from its rules and practices.
26 The families and allies of LGBTQI clergy have also suffered spiritual and psychic harm. LGBTQI clergy
27 have been made more vulnerable by institutional oppression through General Conference decisions in
28 the last 44 years and the April 2017 rulings of the Judicial Council. The decisions not only fracture the
29 body of Christ and dehumanize LGBTQI persons, but do harm to the entire Methodist connection.

30 Collectively as members of the Oregon-Idaho Annual Conference, we re-affirm our baptismal vows "to
31 resist evil, injustice, and oppression in whatever forms they present themselves," especially when it
32 exists in our own Book of Discipline and in rulings of Judicial Council. The Oregon-Idaho Annual
33 Conference aspires to live as the Beloved Community. We respond to God's Great Commission to
34 proclaim the good news to all people, and we intend to live into the reality of the beautiful, bold,
35 diverse, and inclusive Body of Christ.

36
37 We uphold our denomination's mandate to foster inclusiveness: *Inclusiveness means openness,*
38 *acceptance, and support that enables all persons to participate in the life of the church, the community,*
39 *and the world; therefore, inclusiveness denies every semblance of discrimination. (¶ 140 2016 Book of*
40 *Discipline)* The Oregon-Idaho Annual Conference remains in support and solidarity with all LGBTQI

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1 clergy persons. Acting with humility, integrity, and courage, we renew our commitment to continue
2 affirming LGBTQI clergy persons in their calls to ministry, support them in their service to the church,
3 and work with them to transform all forms of institutional discrimination. We pray that God will bless
4 and uphold us as we affirm that there is one Body of Christ, of which we are all beloved members.

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SUPPORTING INFORMATION

9 **What will this action accomplish?** This Resolution affirms for us and to others the sense of unity that is a
10 hallmark of the Oregon-Idaho Conference members, clergy and lay. It records the sense that we
11 support each other, hold each other accountable, and intend for all clergy to be able to answer their
12 call and serve God free of unnecessary human-created boundaries.

13 **Why is it important?** To state for ourselves and anyone who cares to know of our spirit and our
14 methods that we will not accept discrimination and that we hold each person to be holy and worthy of
15 a life of leadership in the church.

16 **How will it be carried out? By whom?** This Resolution reflects the spirit and sense of this body – clergy
17 and lay together. We will all seek to monitor its integration into our work together.

18 **How much will it cost? Where will the money come from?** This Resolution will take part of a page in the
19 Conference Journal. The Annual Conference underwrites the cost of this annual publication as work of
20 our body.
21