EXCERPT, BOOK OF DISCIPLINE 2012

* 1. seek to address human need in the spirit of Jesus Christ.
  2. provide immediate relief of acute human need and respond to the suffering of persons in the world caused by natural, ecological, political turmoil and civil disaster;
  3. work cooperatively with the appropriate conference units, ecumenical bodies and interdenominational agencies in the identification of, advocacy for, and assistance with ministries with refugees, hunger and poverty, and disaster response;
  4. administer these ministries described in subparagraph (3) above in the spirit of Jesus Christ, preserving the dignity of persons without regard to religion, race, nationality, or gender, and seek to enhance the quality of life in the human community.
  5. Work cooperatively with The General Commission on Communication in promotion of the One Great Hour of Sharing Offering;
  6. Initiate printed, audiovisual, electronic, and other resources to interpret, support and communicate with conferences and churches concerning appeals for help and information related to ministries with refugees, hunger and poverty, and disaster response;
  7. Assist and train conference coordinators to address emerging and ongoing issues related to refugees, root causes of hunger and poverty, disaster relief, and rehabilitation;
  8. assist conferences in addressing emerging and ongoing global health issues, including comprehensive community-based primary healthcare, HIV/AIDS, ministries with persons with physically and mentally challenging conditions, environmental health, and particularly the needs of women, children, youth, all immigrant populations, the communities of color in the United States, and racial and ethnic communities globally;
  9. upon request of the appropriate conference unit, provide consultation services to existing and emerging health and welfare institutions and programs, and to jurisdictional, conference, district and local church units:
  10. assist local churches, districts, and annual conferences to develop ministries of health, healing and wholeness;
  11. provide help to conferences and health and welfare institutions to clarify their relationship with one another, including matters of legal and financial responsibility, and help health and welfare institutions to become involved in outreach ministry globally;
  12. (13) act as a facilitator with respect to annual conferences, districts and local churches to encourage awareness of the gifts and needs of persons with disabilities and to promote the leadership and employment throughout the connectional system of persons with disabilities. UMCOR Health shall…