

General Conference Proposals 10 June 2013 Webinar

Prepared by: MCC Governing Board

Presented by: Rev. Tony Freeman, Liz Bisordi



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Agenda

- **Welcome / Opening Prayer**
- **Introduction and Overview**
- **Proposals/Motions:**
 - **International Task Force**
 - **Global Covenant**
 - **Statement of Faith**
 - **Strategic Plan**
 - **Assessment Percent**
- **Questions and Answers / Wrap Up**



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Purpose

An opportunity for General Conference delegates to ask questions about the Governing Board proposals as part of preparing for the General Conference business meeting.

Business Forum

- **Monday, 01 July at 3:30 PM CDT**

Business Meeting

- **Tuesday, 02 July 2013 at 10:45 AM CDT**



International Task Force

- **“General Conference receives the Final Report from the International Task Force with gratitude; and thanks the Steering Committee of the ITF: Dr. Mark Dalglish (UK/Australia), Mr. Jochen Gewecke (Germany), and Dr. Carol Scherfenberg M.D. (USA); and all who participated over the last two years in this process: Rev. Ceejay Agbayani (Philippines), Rev. Tom Decker (Canada), Rev. Araceli Ezzatti (Uruguay), Rev. Paul Mokgethi-Heath (South Africa), Dr. Roger Nasciemento (Brazil/UK), Mr. Henry Onzem (Australia), Ms. Sarah-Jane Ramage (UK), and Rev. Dr. Neil Thomas (USA/UK), in addition to MCC staff: Linda Brenner-Beckstead, Project Manager; and Marina Laws, Rev. Elder Héctor Gutiérrez, Connie Meadows, Leah Sloan.”**
- **Rationale: Receipt of ITF Report and thanks to those who participated.**



Global Covenant

- **“General Conference authorizes the Moderator and Governing Board to appoint and fund a Global Covenant Team that will serve from late 2013 through the 2016 General Conference, and their purpose will be to create a Global Covenant for MCC churches, as our identity, statement of values and theological commitments that will be our primary document of alignment, which will be ratified by the churches in preparation for General Conference XXVI in 2016, and approved by General Conference as we move towards our 50th anniversary. This Team will be accountable to the Governing Board and will reflect the diversity and global nature of our denomination.”**



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Global Covenant

- **Rationale:**
 - **At the present time, it appears that the MCC bylaws (with a very U.S. cultural bias) are the only document that unites us. We believe that it is our core vision, mission, values, inclusive theology, and commitment to justice that really unites us. We believe that a contemporary, 21st Century, Global Covenant would be a wonderful expression of our unity and would be very useful in helping everyone understand who we are and how we want to include more people.**



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Statement of Faith

- **“General Conference authorizes the Moderator and Governing Board to appoint a special task force to review, renew, and update our MCC Statement of Faith. This task force will include representatives from the Council of Elders and from the Theologies Team, as well as those representing the theological, cultural, and global diversity of MCC. It will also seek consultation from resources inside and outside of MCC. The document they bring forth will need to be approved by 2/3 of the General Conference of MCC, at the soonest, by General Conference 2016.”**



Statement of Faith

- **Rationale:**
 - Our Statement of Faith is dated in its language and not used very much in MCC churches. That document will always be a part of our legacy and our history. It was forged in General Conference meetings long ago where often we reached compromises in language just to “get us through to the next General Conference.” It has embedded in it many important and precious concepts, but no one would debate that it is not artfully composed, or even very complete. The ITF wondered if it would not be a valuable investment to have a Statement of Faith that reflected our 45 years of experience, our theological genius and diversity, and grounded us in our Christian commitment; one that we could use in liturgies and in membership classes with pride and joy. The ITF believes MCC has the maturity, talent, and will to do this important work as we approach our 50th anniversary, and the Governing Board unanimously agrees. We also want to give the Task Force enough time and resources to do the very best for the future of MCC.



Strategic Plan

- **“General Conference affirms the Strategic Plan that will guide the denomination through 2018.”**



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Proposal on Assessment Rate

- “General Conference approves a tithe assessment rate for the next three years, 2014 through General Conference year 2016 as follows:
 - 2014 = 12%;
 - 2015 = 12%, and
 - 2016 = 12%.”



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Proposal on Assessment Rate

- **Rationale:**
 - **MCC's entire leadership transformed the ways in which we work and do ministry. We have lived within our means and made difficult choices around staff reductions and office consolidation. We continue to perform. A new strategic plan calls for key investments to expand our impact and global reach and to increase resources for churches and ministries. We feel strongly that they can be achieved through a combination of freezing the tithe assessment rate, increased emphasis on development opportunities, and diversification of our income streams. We are stronger together.**



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What Do You Get for the Assessment?

- **Highlights of Basic Services Offered Include (but not limited to):**
 - Support of Pastoral Searches
 - Support Interim Placements and Interim Supervision
 - Pastoral Care and Support
 - Network Leader Training, Support & Supervision
 - Guidance for Leadership Training
 - Support to those Discerning Call to Professional Ministry
 - Training for Supervising Pastors
 - Professional Licensure for MCC Clergy
 - Leadership Training
 - Clergy Care and Support
 - Authorizing New Church Starts & Leadership
 - Consultation of Local Church Governance and Risk Management
 - Management of Disaffiliation Process and Church Closures
 - Development and Implementation On-Line Resources
 - Manage non-profit status umbrella

Source: *The Spectrum*



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Bad Debt Write Offs And Outstanding A/R

Year	\$ Written Off	Year End A/R Balance	Total US Tithe Income
2009	\$37,712	\$340,653	\$1,691,542
2010	\$115,754	\$305,000	\$1,675,888
2011	\$8,905	\$477,000	\$1,634,132
2012	\$84,400	\$439,830	\$1,411,211
	\$246,771		\$6,412,773

- Figures are for US Churches Only / does not include any outstanding amounts from outside United States
- 2012 had over \$524K that in monies that MCC did not receive (outstanding tithes and write offs)

Note: Does not include info for churches that did not report



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Questions & Answers



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Thank you!

See You In Chicago!



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