

General and Jurisdictional Conference Meeting Minutes, March 6, 2021

Present: Jill Moffett, Russ Abel, Shannon Priddy, Chris Tiedeman, Albert Hidalgo, Chris Hancock, Ronnie Bell, Derek Weber, Chris Hancock, Brett Lloyd, Shirley Dominick, Amy Land, Duane Carlisle, Nathan Lundy, Mary Fridlund, Adriane Curtis, Ian Hall, Rob Fuquay, Greg Pinmlott, Kim Arnott, Dennis Adams, RC Muhlbaier, Mike Womack, Larry Whitehead, Matt Landry, Leah Padgett, Lisa Schubert Nowling, Aleze Fulbright, John Lomperis, Carolyn Johnson

Worship: (Chris Tiedeman, Shannon Priddy, Ronnie Bell, and others)

Knowing one another:

Our covenant – Christian Conferencing Guidelines (read together) -Russ

-Importance of holding one another in respect and love- Jesus didn't give us any other option.

-“We are in the time that we're in”

o Accountability – How are we living this?

o There is a lot of hurt among us on the delegation and in our church- we may recognize our part in that, but we have covenanted to love one another and serve faithfully

-Note about future worship in the delegation being created with people from different perspectives to make “worship for everybody”, being intentional about including both laity and clergy

-making sure to follow up with prayer partners, re-engage with them

Poll:

Do you support the Protocol? ***Yes: 92%** ***No: 8%**

Do you support placing the Protocol on the agenda for May 8, Special Called General Conference Session? (as a 13th item on the agenda to be completed as a paper ballot)

***Yes: 68%** ***No: 32%**

Results: 25 votes total (out of 27 people on the call)

Concern about not having enough information, possibilities for Christmas Covenant, etc.

Concern voiced about voting on the 13th agenda item without having debate on it

For future meeting discussions:

If Protocol passes, what does that mean?

If it's delayed again, what does that mean?

Praying together

o How will we hold one another, and our work, in prayer leading up to May 8?

Knowing our work:

May 8

o Agenda of 12 items -

<https://www.unitedmethodistbishops.org/files/websites/www/pdfs/12+legislations+to+be+decided+by+the+2021+special+session+of+general+conference.pdf>

o Possible other agenda items

Protocol for Separation with Grace?

Jurisdictional Conference – July

General conference 2020 - August 29-September 6, 2022

Jurisdictional Conference

Knowing where we are:

Poll on support for the Protocol for Separation with Grace (see above)

Are there other plans we should know about?

Work from Alaska Annual Conference that address the Protocol WITH Christmas Covenant

<https://alaskaumc.files.wordpress.com/2021/01/the-alaska-omnibus-proposal-introduction-legislation.pdf>

*Concern with bundling the two or not

-Question: “Why not just leave?”

-Is it a real possibility that the Protocol would end up on the May 8 agenda? Book of Discipline has a way for this, work of the General Conference belongs to the General Conference (Paragraph 14 says that delegates can expand the business by 2/3 vote to other items even though Bishops set the agenda)

-It would have to come on May 8, Bishops probably would know it was coming ahead of time

What would be the impact on the Protocol for us to consider other plans?

What are the plans of the WCA/GMC – anything we should be aware of?

-Clarification that the GMC is broader than the WCA- it is an attempt to bring together all traditionalist movements under one denomination

What are the plans for the “Room for all coalition” – anything we should know about?

-Visioning conversations

-Concern and education about what will our institutions will look like in the future

-Concern about annual conferences and the decisions that they will have to make, as well as individual churches

Other coalitions or groups?

Future meetings:

Previously announced:

Saturday, April 17: 9 am-12:00 pm (Eastern time)

Saturday, May 15

Saturday, June 19

Saturday, July 17

Other items:

Chris Nunley has stepped off of the delgation- Chiyona Bourne is now a jurisdictional conference delegate, Meg Lassiatt becomes first alternate on clergy side

Re-engage with your prayer partner

Let's not lose sight of the fact that our general mission is to share the grace of Jesus Christ

Sending: Russ Abel

Next Meeting: Saturday, April 17, Zoom