

**GB UFMCC BYLAWS AMENDMENT PROPOSALS for
General Conference XXVII – 01-05 JULY 2019**

THERE ARE THREE (3) TOTAL GOVERNING BOARD BYLAW PROPOSALS INCLUDED IN THIS BUSINESS PACKAGE:

- 01- GB PROPOSAL 01: LAY DELEGATE ELECTION AFTER GC – Article V.B.2.d. LAY DELEGATE
- 02- GB PROPOSAL 02: GB TERM OF OFFICE TO 3 YEARS - V.E. 4. c. TERM OF OFFICE
- 03- GB PROPOSAL 03: ADDENDUM 1: REDUCE SPONSOR - ADDENDUM 1: PROCEDURES FOR SUBMITTING BYLAW PROPOSALS

PROPOSED BYLAW AMENDMENTS General Conference XXVII 1-5 July 2019

(Require approval by 2/3 or more of the Lay House and 2/3 or more of the Clergy House)

How to read the Bylaw Amendment Proposals:

CURRENT LANGUAGE: ● The column labeled “Current Language” shows how the Bylaws currently read. ● Any words that appear in black bolded underlined text with strike-through are to be deleted.

PROPOSED LANGUAGE: ● The column labeled “Proposed Language” shows how the particular Article from the Bylaws would read if the Bylaw amendment proposal is approved by General Conference. ● Any words that appear in red bold text are to be added.

01 - GB UFMCC BYLAWS AMENDMENT PROPOSAL # 01

Sponsor of this Amendment Proposal: Governing Board

Article to be amended (Example: Article VIII.A.4): Article V.B.2.d.

Affected Section	Article V.B.2.d. LAY DELEGATE:
Original Language	LAY DELEGATE: Each affiliated church shall have one (1) vote for every one hundred (100) members in good standing or portion thereof and shall elect one (1) Lay Delegate for each vote. Each Lay Delegate shall carry one (1) vote. Each Lay Delegate shall be a member in good standing of the congregation that he/she represents. should be elected at the first congregational meeting following each General Conference and shall serve a term of three (3) years. The duties of the Lay Delegate shall include, but not be limited to, representation of the congregation at General Conferences and to be informed of the UFMCC concerns and policies.
Strikethrough Language	LAY DELEGATE: Each affiliated church shall have one (1) vote for every one hundred (100) members in good standing or portion thereof and shall elect one (1) Lay Delegate for each vote. Each Lay Delegate shall carry one (1) vote. Each Lay Delegate shall be a member in good standing of the congregation that he/she represents, should be elected at the first congregational meeting following each General Conference and shall serve a term of three (3) years. The duties of the Lay Delegate shall include, but not be limited to, representation of the congregation at General Conferences and to be informed of the UFMCC concerns and policies.
Final Proposed Language	LAY DELEGATE: Each affiliated church shall have one (1) vote for every one hundred (100) members in good standing or portion thereof and shall elect one (1) Lay Delegate for each vote. Each Lay Delegate shall carry one (1) vote. Each Lay Delegate shall be a member in good standing of the congregation that he/she represents, and shall serve a term of three (3) years. The duties of the Lay Delegate shall include, but not be limited to, representation of the congregation at General Conferences and to be informed of the UFMCC concerns and policies.
Rationale	There term of office remains the same. Since we host our General Conference every 3 years, to require a local church to elect new lay delegates at the first congregational meeting following the General Conference limits the church's flexibility to elect lay delegates within the rhythm or timeliness of their congregation's local bylaws and/or standing operation procedures. Oftentimes within a 3 year cycle, a church's elected lay delegate may need resign for various reasons, death, and/or just leave the church before the General Conference. Hopefully this proposed change with provide options for the local church's cycle.
Impact Statement	Financial: N/A Values/Mission/Vision compatibility: Consistent Other bylaw articles impacted: N/A

02 - GB UFMCC BYLAWS AMENDMENT PROPOSAL # 02

Sponsor of this Amendment Proposal: Governing Board

Article to be amended (Example: Article VIII.A.4): Article V.E. 4. c.

Affected Section	V.E. 4. c. TERM OF OFFICE:
Original Language	TERM OF OFFICE: The term of office for members of the Governing Board shall be six years, with the exception that General Conference XXIV shall elect two (2) lay persons and two (2) clergy persons to three-year terms until the next General Conference, when two (2) lay persons and two (2) clergy persons shall be elected to six-year terms.
Strikethrough Language	TERM OF OFFICE: The term of office for members of the Governing Board shall be <u>six years</u> . <u>with the exception that General Conference XXIV shall elect two (2) lay persons and two (2) clergy persons to three year terms until the next General Conference, when two (2) lay persons and two (2) clergy persons shall be elected to six year terms.</u>
Final Proposed Language	TERM OF OFFICE: The term of office for members of the Governing Board shall be three (3) years. General Conference shall elect four (4) lay persons and four (4) clergy persons to three (3) year terms of office until the next General Conference.
Rationale	Proposed term of office for Governing Board members in the restructure at 2010 General Conference was three years. A bylaw amendment from the floor proposed to stagger half the Governing Board members so the term of office became six years. At General Conference 2016 seven vacant seats were filled and there will be seven vacant seats to be filled at General Conference 2019. For various reasons, a majority of Governing Board members elected have not sustained a six year term of office Thus, we think it is prudent to reduce the term of office to three years for both the laity and clergy seats.
Impact Statement	Financial: N/A Values/Mission/Vision compatibility: Members offering the serve MCC's Governing Board should be able to serve a term of office that is compatible with their availability. However we prefer that governors are able to serve three year increments to their fullest. If they feel called to serve another term of office, they can apply and be re-elected by the General Conference. It is the quality of their service rather than the quantity of the years served. Other bylaw articles impacted: N/A

03 - GB UFMCC BYLAWS AMENDMENT PROPOSAL # 03

Sponsor of this Amendment Proposal: Governing Board

Article to be amended (Example: Article VIII.A.4): ADDENDUM 1: PROCEDURES FOR SUBMITTING BYLAW PROPOSALS

Affected Section	ADDENDUM 1: PROCEDURES FOR SUBMITTING BYLAW PROPOSALS
Original Language	<p>2. In order for a member of the Lay House or of the Clergy House to submit a Bylaw amendment, the proposal must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Have the written support of the sponsor's local church and b. Have the written support of at least two (2) other churches from two (2) other countries.
Strikethrough Language	<p>2. In order for a member of the Lay House or of the Clergy House to submit a Bylaw amendment, the proposal must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Have the written support of the sponsor's local church and b. Have the written support of at least two (2) other churches from two (2) other countries. c.
Final Proposed Language	<p>2. In order for a member of the Lay House or of the Clergy House to submit a Bylaw amendment, the proposal must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Have the written support of the sponsor's local church and b. Have the written support of at least two (2) other churches with at least one (1) from one (1) other country.
Rationale	<p>During the 2010 General Conference business meeting, an amendment from the floor was accepted to require two other countries to support a local church's initial proposal. During the 2013 and 2016 General Conferences, no Clergy or Lay delegate bylaw amendment proposals were received. However, at our 2019 General Conference, one Clergy led bylaw amendment proposal was received with two other country supporters was received.</p> <p>We want to support Clergy and/or Lay Delegate sponsored bylaw proposals thus we propose keeping the spirit of connecting with other country's Clergy and/or Lay Delegates to sponsor a bylaw amendment proposal but reduce it from two (2) to one (1) other country support.</p>
Impact Statement	<p>Financial: N/A Values/Mission/Vision compatibility: Consistent Other bylaw articles impacted: N/A</p>

01 - CLERGY UFMCC BYLAWS AMENDMENT PROPOSAL # 01

Sponsor of this Amendment Proposal: Rev Aaron Miller & Rev Marie Alford-Harkley

Supporter of this Amendment: Rev. Francisco Ferreira, Jr. ICM Fortaleza (Brazil)

Supporter of this Amendment: Rev. Jeff Rock, MCC Toronto (Canada)

Article to be amended (Example: Article VIII.A.4): Article III.B.2

Affected Section	Article III.B.2 - The RITE OF ATTAINING MEMBERSHIP IN THE CHURCH
Original Language	The RITE OF ATTAINING MEMBERSHIP IN THE CHURCH shall be conducted by the Pastor or Interim Pastoral Leader before a local congregation at any regular worship service. In accordance with criteria established by the local church, a baptized Christian may become a member in good standing of the local church group through a letter of transfer from a recognized Christian body or through affirmation of faith.
Strikethrough Language	The RITE OF ATTAINING MEMBERSHIP IN THE CHURCH shall be conducted by the Pastor or Interim Pastoral Leader before a local congregation at any regular worship service. In accordance with criteria established by the local church, a baptized Christian may become a member in good standing of the local church group through a letter of transfer from a recognized Christian body or through affirmation of faith.
Final Proposed Language	The RITE OF ATTAINING MEMBERSHIP IN THE CHURCH shall be conducted by the Pastor or Interim Pastoral Leader before a local congregation at any regular worship service. In accordance with criteria established by the local church, a person who expresses a sincere desire to become a part of a local church community, intends to support its ministries and mission, and meets criteria established by the local church may become a member in good standing of the local church group.
Rationale	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Some local church communities have already made this change by not asking about baptismal status before conferring the Rite of Membership. Some local churches have changed their bylaws to reflect this. It would be good for the denomination to have similarly inclusive bylaws. 2. For many churches, refusing membership to people who are not baptized amounts to outright rejection of people who

	<p>want to be a part of the community. This is antithetical to MCC's values.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. This bylaw change does not preclude a local church group from making a baptism a prerequisite for membership if that is the will and desire of the particular church group. 4. Those who were baptized (or not) as infants did not do this by choice, faith or commitment- technical advantage/disadvantage by default. 5. A person who is denied membership due to baptismal status may feel wounded and leave. It would be far better for them to feel welcomed in the church and this could lead to a later desire for the sacrament of baptism
<p>Impact Statement</p>	<p><u>COE:</u> A majority of COE members have responded to this request for input. The concern seems to lie around local churches retaining baptism as a requirement for membership, and the thought that local bylaws cannot contradict denominational bylaws.</p> <p><u>Financial:</u> N/A</p> <p><u>Values/Mission/Vision compatibility:</u> Consistent</p> <p><u>Other bylaw articles impacted:</u> N/A</p>