



Pension Officers Forum—Africa, October 2022



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Looking to the Future



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*Managing Director, Church
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Recent and Current Events and Activities



- General Conference delayed a third time
- Exit from the UMC of Bulgaria portion of the Bulgaria-Romania Annual Conference
- Disaffiliation from the UMC of some U.S. congregations
- Formation of Global Methodist Church
- Africa College of Bishops statement

Planned or Possible in the Future

- Election of about 15 U.S. bishops in November 2022
- General Conference in 2024
 - Dates and location not yet announced
 - Postponed 2020 General Conference, or General Conference 2024?
- Possible new episcopal areas in Africa
- Africa Central Conferences in 2024 or 2025



Some Wespath General Conference Objectives

- New retirement plan for U.S. clergy
 - Reduce cost and improve sustainability
 - Grant Wespath's Board of Directors some authority to amend
- Regional governance
- Update Central Conference pensions responsibilities



A General Conference Request from Wespath

How can Wespath...

- Obtain contact details for General Conference delegates?
- Hear from delegates, and convey information to them?

Can you help us...

- Connect with delegates from your area or conference?
- Interpret and explain Wespath's proposals?

Is there Africa legislation Wespath should be aware of?

Central Conference Pensions and the Future

- Emphasis on improving sustainability
- Donor relations and communications
- Principles for UMC Division Scenarios
 - Help assure current and future pensioners receive pensions for UMC service
 - Serve new Methodist entities arising from UMC division to the extent feasible



The Future Where You Serve

What are your conferences' or episcopal areas'...

- Key needs or challenges?
- Significant opportunities?

What are impacts, if any, on the pension plan?

What about your conference or episcopal area...

- Do you foresee any separation from the UMC?
- Any loss of support due to division in the U.S. Church?

Additional Comments? Questions?





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