

General Conference Legislation Tracking for UM Creation Justice Movement

REVISED SOCIAL PRINCIPLES

Community of All Creation / formerly Our Natural World

20004-CA-¶160-G; ADCA Page 156 - Temple, Chappell - Sugar Land, TX, USA.

C. Dependence on Fossil Fuels “The burning of fossil fuels, including coal, oil, and, to a lesser extent, natural gas, is the greatest single contributor to the buildup of greenhouse gases and the consequent warming of earth’s atmosphere.”

BOOK OF RESOLUTIONS

Retain Resolutions: R1025, R1028, R1029, R1032. R1034

20754-20757, 20759- CA, ADCA Page 1192, Sally Vonner, New York, NY, for United Women in Faith

Issues are relevant and have not been resolved. They include Environmental Racism, Law of the Sea, Protection of Water, Principles for Just and Sustainable Extraction and Production, and Environmental Health.

Readopt Resolutions: R1033, R1035

20758 & 20760-CA; ADCA Page 1192-1193, Hill, John - Washington, DC, USA for General Board of Church and Society.

Due to the extended quadrennium the sunset rule kicked in without an opportunity to reconsider. These documents have been used to rationalize new documents. 1033 is “Care for Creation: A Call to Stewardship and Justice.” 1035 is “Climate Change and the Church’s Response.”

Amendments to Energy Policy Statement

20531-CA-R1001.G ADCA Page 179 Author: Susan Henry-Crowe for GBC&S

Amends R1001 to update, include #1002 and #1003, and adds paragraphs like: “3. We will model rapid transition to clean renewable energy. We urge all annual conferences, churches, and agencies to develop ambitious, just, and equitable transition pathways for their energy sources to be clean and renewable.”

Green Team Formation

20781-CA-R9999; ADCA Pages 1199- 1200, Author: Crys Zinkiewicz, - Nashville, TN

A call for every church to establish or strengthen their green team. The resolution also gives new and existing teams guidelines for effective action in four areas: Worship, Education, Practice, and Advocacy.

Commitment to Net Zero Greenhouse Gas Emissions

20782-CA-R9999; ADCA Page 1200, Author: Bob Downs, Dayton, OH

A call to confess our failure to properly steward God's creation and join the commitment of our Agencies and our Council of Bishops to become net zero by 2050.

Land Use

20779-CA-R9999; ADCA Pages 1197-1198, Author: Kim Richmond, North Carolina, for Creation Justice Movement

Includes "convert to alternate energy sources" with rational "let the sun, wind, and water provided by the Creator supply the power."

Use of Plastic

20620-CA-R9999-G ADCA Page 196 Author: Garald Rueckert, Frankfurt am Main, Germany

"for all church activities... a two-fold strategy of avoiding... and reducing... is to be pursued." And "that all delegates commit to personal action"

Reducing Resources in Construction

20612-CA-R9999 ADCA Page 189 Author: Jeffrey Hodge, Upper NY AC

We "shall prefer the modification of existing structures over demolition and replacement with new construction wherever the choice is available."

BOOK OF DISCIPLINE

Establish a Conference Caretakers of God's Creation Coordinator in Each Annual Conference

20010-CA-¶629-G ADCA Page 175 Author: Jaydee Hansen, Virginia AC

BC&S “shall name a conference caretakers of God’s creation Coordinator”

Other Ministry Group Coordinators

21056-LC-¶254; ADCA Page 1611, Crys Zinkiewicz, Nashville TN

Changes the language of “earth advocacy” to “earth advocacy/green team” to better define what local churches are doing in support of God’s creation.

Annual Carbon Footprint and Greenhouse Gas Emissions Audit for Local Churches

20413-LC-¶2533-G ADCA Page 944 Author: Ian Urriola, Stephens City, VA

Charges the local church Board of Trustees to conduct an annual carbon footprint and/or greenhouse gas emissions audit, make plans and priorities to eliminate barriers, and this information “shall be” reported on the annual charge conference reports.

Reporting Church's Progress on Facilities Becoming Carbon Neutral and/or Having Net Zero Greenhouse

20417-LC-¶2550-G ADCA Page 947 Author: Ian Urriola, Stephens City, VA

New subparagraph on Board of Trustees report to Charge Conference to include reporting on progress toward Carbon Neutral/ Net Zero Greenhouse gas emissions.

21016-CO-¶603.4 ADCA Page 1311 Author: Nancy Blade, Northern Illinois

To screen our annual conference meeting locations with sustainable practices for energy, waste, and consumption. This follows the United Women in Faith evaluations of our Conference meetings. Lack of recycling has become an issue in many Annual Conferences in the USA. The language is general enough to be interpreted for each region.

General Conference Owned Land Use

20942-FA-¶807.8; Richmond, Kimberly - Pfafftown, NC, USA for United Methodist Creation Justice Movement.

Calls upon the Trustees of the General Conference properties to evaluate the land use of general conference properties to bring it back into harmony with God's creation for these parcels. Sites specific actions of planting native plants, removing invasive species and stopping use of synthetics.

District Owned Land Use

20955-FA-¶2518; ADAC Page 1497, Kim Richmond, Pfafftown, NC for General Board of Pension and Health Benefits

Same as above, but for District owned properties

Conference Owned Land Use

20954-FA-¶2512; ADAC Page 1497, Kim Richmond, Pfafftown, NC, USA for United Methodist Creation Justice Movement.

Same as above, but for Conference owned properties

DIVESTMENT IN THE BOOK OF DISCIPLINE

Support 20981-GA-¶717 Amending the Sustainable & Socially Responsible Investments

change. In addition, United Methodist institutions shall endeavor to avoid investments in companies engaged in core business activities that are not aligned with the Social Principles through their direct or indirect involvement with the production of anti-personnel weapons and armaments (both nuclear and conventional weapons), fossil fuels, alcoholic beverages or tobacco; or that are involved in privately operated correctional facilities, gambling, pornography or other forms of exploitative adult entertainment. The boards and agencies are to give careful consideration to environmental, social, and governance factors when making investment decisions and actively exercise their responsibility as owners of the companies in which they invest. This includes engaging with companies to create positive change and hold them accountable for their actions, while also considering exclusion if companies fail to act responsibly.

Do not Support 20982-GA-¶717 from Wespath Investments

The boards and agencies are to give careful consideration to environmental, social, and governance factors when making investment decisions and actively exercise their responsibility as owners of the companies and sovereign securities in which they invest. This includes engaging with companies, governments (to the extent reasonable, safe, and permitted by law), intergovernmental organizations, nongovernmental organizations, and other policy-makers, to create positive change, including advocating through active stewardship that companies (particularly the world's largest greenhouse gas emitters) support and align with a just and equitable transition to net-zero carbon emissions by 2050, and holding companies and governments ~~them~~ accountable for their actions, while also considering exclusion if companies and governments fail to act responsibly.