

ADDENDUM to the *Book of Reports*

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Annual Conference Committees

*Tellers: Under Elizabeth River District, Clergy, add Saunnie Butts ; Lay, add David Springstead
Under York River District, add Nancy Yarborough*

Add:

Committee on Minutes

Clergy

Jiyeon Kim
Andrew Ware

Lay

Leticia Borden
Iris Smith

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Addendum to Report of the Committee on Rules

In the light of a virtual 2020 Annual Conference, the Rules Committee is seeking to strike the current Standing Rules of Order and Procedure so that all the following rules in this addendum may take place immediately and only for the 238th Session of the Virginia Annual Conference. These changes would allow the necessary work of this Annual Conference to be done virtually.

The 2016-2020 Rules Committee

Rev. Joshua S. King, Chair

RECOMMENDATIONS

Changes Recommended by Rules Committee

Paragraph I.B.7 - strike "signed by the members of the conference." and insert "as registered and present through Lumi Global."

Paragraph II.D.3 – Suspend this rule for the 2020 Annual Conference. This rule reads: "*Proposals Requiring Addition to Agenda. During the first business session of annual conference, the agenda shall include time to introduce items in addition to the printed agenda. Any such items not referred to conference agencies under the preceding paragraphs shall be referred to the Rules Committee for its consideration and recommendation prior to adjournment of annual conference.*"

Paragraph VI.A – Insert after of the district conference "in the manner designated by the District Superintendent"

Paragraph VII.D – strike "as set forth in Appendix "A" (attached). During balloting, ballots will be distributed to and collected from only those persons displaying the proper credentials."

Pg. 38 *Corrected report of the Site Selection Committee:*

SITE SELECTION COMMITTEE

The Site Selection Committee is responsible for making the arrangements for the meeting of the Annual Conference and is to identify and recommend the location for the Virginia Annual Conference to meet. Beginning last year and forward, the Annual Conference convenes on Thursday and concludes on Saturday as set by Bishop Sharma D. Lewis.

By previous Annual Conference action, the following locations have been approved for the site of the Annual Conference:

Hampton	June 17-19, 2021
Hampton	June 16-18, 2022
Roanoke	June 15-17, 2023
Roanoke	June 20-22, 2024

Under the current Virginia Annual Conference Standing Rules of Order and Procedure, the Site Selection Committee would recommend a location five (5) years in advance of meeting. Under the 2020 proposed Standing Rules, the Site Selection Committee would recommend a location three (3) years in advance of the Annual Conference meeting.

The Site Selection Committee is recommending to amend the report accepted at the 2019 Annual Conference, to reflect the NEW RULE that is proposed at the beginning of the 2020 Annual Conference, and to accept only the next three years of location recommendation, which had previously been approved.

The Committee, along with the Director of Connectional Ministries (DCM) and with the assistance of the Conference meeting planner, continues to review other locations for holding Annual Conference across the Commonwealth. For your reference, we have the following requirements in evaluating potential Annual Conference sites:

- Venue to accommodate 3,500 people
- 1,500 hotel rooms in the area
- Parking for 2,500 cars
- Meeting space for the Clergy Session of 1,500 people
- Meeting space for the Laity Session of 1,500 people
- Additional meeting spaces adjacent to the Conference floor
- Two (2) banquet areas to accommodate 500 people each
- Additional banquet locations accessible to Conference
- Restaurants to accommodate 3,500 patrons within 1½ - 2 hour timeframe
- 10,000 sq. ft. of exhibit space

RECOMMENDATIONS:

MOTION #1

The Site Selection Committee recommends to amend the report adopted at the 2019 Annual Conference, to reflect the NEW RULE that was adopted at the beginning of the 2020 Annual Conference and to accept only the next three (3) years of location recommendation, which had previously been approved.

MOTION #2

The Site Selection Committee makes no recommendation at this time for the 2025 Annual Conference location reflecting the NEW RULE that was adopted at the beginning of the 2020 Annual Conference.

*Neal E. Wise, Chair
Site Selection Committee*

Pg. 58 *Add to National Advance Specials:*
United States: The Jeremiah Project #3021220

Pg. 65 **Campus Ministry Association Updated Report**
COVID-19 Update

The reports that were written in the Book of Reports were written before the universities shut down due to COVID-19. Here is a brief report from the Campus Ministers Association (CMA) as an update to the Virginia Annual Conference.

In the midst of the pandemics that have been affecting our world, our campus ministers have been meeting the spiritual, emotional, and material needs of students. Beginning in March, the campus ministers and chaplains meet together every two weeks as the CMA, and have continued these meetings throughout the summer. In these meetings we have discussed how COVID-19 and racism impact our students and communities, and we share how our various ministries continue to minister to college students and empower them to live out their faith by standing up for justice during this time.

The CMA has had many conversations about how Campus Ministries are functioning during this time. Our meetings are a place where we come together to support each other, share ideas, and be in communion with one another. We have needed to be creative during this time and Campus Ministries host virtual events, house students that need housing, provide food for students who are in need, and are a place where students can come and share their thoughts and questions during this stressful time, and in turn receive compassion and tangible support for the journey ahead. We want to thank all who have continued to support our campus ministers, chaplains at United Methodist schools and our students in our campus ministries throughout the Commonwealth.

Pg. 52 *Add to the Common Table for Church Vitality report:*

PROPOSED REVISION OF
CHARTER FOR THE COMMON TABLE FOR CHURCH VITALITY
Effective Jan. 1, 2006

I. PURPOSE

The Common Table for Church Vitality exists to resource mission and ministry to fulfill the conference mission and vision. As a diverse body of representatives, the Common Table coordinates with Boards and Agencies, assists in the disbursement of ministry and program grants, and oversees the personnel of the Annual Conference offices that are under its guidance. The Common Table supports the Director of Connectional Ministries to fulfill the requirements of Paragraph 208 in the Book of Discipline.

A. MISSION

The mission of the Virginia Annual Conference is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

B. VISION

The vision of the Virginia Annual Conference is to be disciples of Jesus Christ who are lifelong learners who influence others to serve.

C. VALUES

- Integrity in the work.
- Good communication.
- Diversity of voices at the table.
- Creative thinking to benefit the whole.

- Advocate for justice and non-discrimination for all.

II. MEMBERSHIP

The Common Table provides spiritual leadership for the Conference to carry out the Purpose of this Charter. It is both desirable and consistent with our Conference values that the members of the Common Table represent the diversity of our Conference. The Common Table includes the following 12 voting positions and 3 non-voting positions:

A. Voting Members

1. Presiding Bishop
2. Conference Lay Leader
3. Director of Connectional Ministries
4. Cabinet representative assigned by the bishop
5. Commission on Ethnic Minority Concerns and Advocacy representative (in accordance with ¶643.5)
6. Chair of Board of Higher Education and Campus Ministries (in accordance with ¶634.3)
7. Six at-large members equally divided between clergy and laity in annual classes, including two young adult/youth representatives, as elected in III

B. Non-voting Members

1. Representative from Council on Finance and Administration assigned by the Council on Finance and Administration
2. The elected Secretary of the Annual Conference shall serve as Secretary for the Common Table.
3. Representative from contributors such as the United Methodist Women to Grants committee only.

III. SELECTION OF AT-LARGE COMMON TABLE MEMBERS

1. All Members of the Common Table at-large (3 clergy and 3 laity) are nominated by the Conference Leadership Discovery and Development Team in consultation with the Bishop and elected by the annual conference. Two of these at-large members must be young adult/youth representatives.

IV. TERMS OF SERVICE FOR AT-LARGE MEMBERS

At-large members serve up to two four year terms and are placed in annual classes. If a person is elected to fill an unexpired term of two years or less, that person is eligible for reelection to a full four-year term. In the event that a member resigns or dies during his/her term, a replacement shall be nominated by the Conference Leadership Discovery and Development Team or the Bishop, according to method of nomination, and elected by the Annual Conference with the replacement serving until the end of the original term. Any at-large member of the Common Table who is absent from two meetings without excuse or from three consecutive meetings for any reason shall automatically cease to be a member of the Common Table.

V. MEETINGS

Common Table will prioritize the work that needs to be accomplished in a timely manner. We plan to meet as often as we need to complete this work, meeting at least quarterly. Quarterly meetings would include a time for team building and operational issues. Meetings shall be open, consistent with the provisions of The Book of Discipline. The Common Table will move to closed executive meetings to discuss confidential information when deemed necessary by a majority vote of the Common Table. Approved Common Table minutes will be on the conference website for public viewing.

VI. OFFICERS

The Bishop, Conference Lay Leader and Director of Connectional Ministries will lead the Common Table in interpreting the Conference vision. The Director of Connectional Ministries is the Chairperson. The Conference Lay Leader is the Vice Chairperson. Meetings may be led by the Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson,

or a designated meeting presider. The Secretary of the Annual Conference is the Secretary of the Common Table, without vote.

VII. COMMITTEES

A. PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

The Common Table shall appoint a Personnel Committee annually from within its members to assist with the selection and employment of all Conference program staff, both lay and clergy. The Common Table shall appoint the chair of the Personnel Committee from within its members. The Director of Connectional Ministries shall serve as an ex officio member of this committee without vote.

B. GRANTS COMMITTEE

The Common Table may appoint a Grants Committee annually from among the members of the Conference to advise the Common Table on the following:

1. Grants for connectional ministries beyond the local level, funded through the Conference Benevolence apportionment, and
2. Program grants for local ministry projects funded through the Conference Benevolence apportionment, the United Methodist Women, and the Church Extension Fund.

C. OTHER COMMITTEES

The Common Table may designate such other committees as are necessary for its functioning.

VIII. SELECTION OF DIRECTOR OF CONNECTIONAL MINISTRIES AND STAFF

A. The Annual Conference shall elect annually upon nomination of the Bishop, and in consultation with the Common Table an executive officer to be known as the Director of Connectional Ministries. The Director shall serve a maximum tenure of eight years in keeping with the Appointive Cabinet practice. The responsibilities of the Director of Connectional Ministries shall be but are not limited to the following:

1. To serve as the Chairperson of the Common Table and Co-chairperson, with the Conference Lay Leader, of the Conference Leadership Development and Discovery Team.
2. To be a communication link between the Conference program agencies and Jurisdictional and General Conference program agencies.
3. To facilitate communication among the Conference program agencies, laity, clergy and the local churches.
4. To serve as a resource person Virginia Conference Appointive Cabinet, Districts, clergy, laity, local churches and Conference ministries to include program planning, ministry evaluation and Conference vision implementation.
5. To serve on other Conference agencies as determined by the Annual Conference, Bishop and/or by the Common Table.

B. Each staff person shall be nominated annually by Common Table in consultation with the Bishop and appropriate resourced Boards and Agencies.

C. The Business Manager/Treasurer of the Annual Conference shall serve the Common Table in direct support of their work and shall have oversight of financial operations of the Common Table. In that capacity, the Business Manager/Treasurer shall coordinate this work with the Director of Connectional Ministries.

D. All Connectional Ministries program staff shall be employed by and amenable to the Common Table. The Director of Connectional Ministries shall be responsible for the oversight and supervision of the program staff.

E. Administrative/Technical/Professional Staff of the Common Table shall be employed by the Director of Connectional Ministries. The Director of Connectional Ministries will give oversight to and supervise the Administrative/Technical/Professional staff in accordance with the personnel policies and the staff manual.

IX. FINANCES

The Common Table shall present a budget to the Council on Finance and Administration to cover the expenses for the work of the Common Table and the boards and agencies, committees, commissions, task forces and other groups for which it is responsible. The right of the Annual Conference boards and agencies to be heard by the Council on Finance and Administration shall not be denied, as provided by ¶1614 the 2012 Book of Discipline.

X. MEETINGS OF BOARD AND COMMISSION CHAIRS

Semi-annual (or as often as necessary) meetings of Chairs (or designated representatives) of Conference Program Boards and Commissions that are under the oversight of Common Table will be held for the purpose of aligning conference program and mission with the vision of the Conference. A report of the Chairs' meetings will be provided to Common Table to assist in its responsibilities for its purpose of coordinating and prioritizing the ministries and resources of the Virginia Conference. The boards and commissions that are amenable to Common Table are:

- Board of Church and Society
- Board of Communications
- Board of Discipleship
- Missional Ministries Team
- Board of Higher Education and Campus Ministries
- Board of Laity
- Church Development Team
- Commission on Disabilities
- Commission on Ethnic Minority Concerns and Advocacy
- Commission on Status and Role of Women

Other Attendees

- a. Conference Staff serving as primary staff resource to these boards and commissions will attend these meetings with voice but without vote.
- b. The Presidents (or designated representatives) of the Conference United Methodist Men and United Methodist Women will be encouraged to participate in these meetings.
- c. Chairs (or designated representatives) of Conference Administrative Boards that are not under the purview of the Common Table will be encouraged to participate in these meetings.

The Director of Connectional Ministries shall chair these meetings.

XI. AMENDMENTS

Amendments to the charter not in conflict with The Book of Discipline may be made by a majority vote of the Annual Conference and originate as follows:

- (1) upon recommendation of the Common Table, or
- (2) upon petition of a member of the Annual Conference at least 60 days prior to the next annual conference session.

The Common Table shall review the petition(s) and submit its recommendations to the Annual Conference together with the proposed amendment.

XII. EFFECTIVE DATE OF CHARTER

The Charter for the Common Table for Church Vitality shall become effective January 1, 2006.

Add the following recommendation to the report of the Missional Ministries Team:

That the Relationship Agreements as presented to the Missional Connections Team of the Conference Missional Ministries Board between the Virginia Conference and Heart Havens, Inc.; United Methodist Family Services of Virginia; Pinnacle Living.; Virginia United Methodist Housing Development Corporation; and Wesley Housing Development Corporation, be continued.

Nominations

Add the following nominees:

Older Adult Council

Suzanne Spencer

Communications

Clergy

Bert Cloud

Bishops' Foundation

Lay

David Wagner

Pg. 117 *add the following to the Historical Society report:*

REQUEST TO PETITION FOR "CANAAAN", THE EDWARD DROMGOOLE, SR. HOUSE TO BE LISTED
AS A HISTORIC SITE WITH THE GENERAL COMMISSION OF ARCHIVES
AND HISTORY OF THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

It is believed that "Canaan" (built from 1796 to 1798), Valentine, Brunswick County, Virginia, the home of Edward Dromgoole, Sr. and Rebecca Walton Dromgoole, his wife, is the only extant home within the bounds of the Virginia Conference now standing that once belonged to an important eighteenth-century Methodist circuit rider and local pastor where also Methodist class meetings, preaching, and worship services took place; and

Edward Dromgoole, Sr. (1751-1835) is widely recognized as a significant figure in colonial American Methodism who immigrated from Ireland to Baltimore, Maryland in 1770 with a letter of introduction to a fellow Irishman, Robert Strawbridge, the founder of American Methodism, heard Strawbridge preach in 1770, requested that Strawbridge come to Frederick to preach that "I might hear and be saved, started himself to preach in 1772, received an appointment in 1775 with George Shadford during the First Great Awakening in Virginia (1772-1777) to minister on the Brunswick Circuit in southside Virginia and North Carolina along with Devereux Jarratt, the noted Anglican preacher from nearby Dinwiddie County. who assisted in the spread of Methodist revival among those in the Church of England; and

Edward Dromgoole, Sr. is widely recognized as a Methodist leader during the American Revolution, since he was one of five selected to supervise Methodism should all British missionaries depart, he kept the rapidly-growing Methodist movement together during this war at a time when mostly all British-born Methodist itinerants had left the country or stopped preaching, he took the oath of allegiance to the American cause in Sussex County, Virginia, he read aloud a copy of the Declaration of Independence to a congregation in Halifax County, North Carolina, he worked with Francis Asbury's negotiating party during the ordination and sacraments

controversy during the Revolutionary War when members were deprived of Anglican clergy for their sacraments; and

Edward Dromgoole, Sr. is recognized for his assistance in forming the Methodist Episcopal Church as an American denomination separate from the Anglican Church by writing John Wesley on May 22, 1783 showing that Methodism in America had made decided progress in spite of the war and telling him of the great esteem that the American Methodists had for Francis Asbury and their desire for him "to superintend the whole work, and go through all the circuits once a year" by attending the Christmas Conference held in Baltimore in 1784 where the Methodist Episcopal Church was organized and Thomas Coke and Francis Asbury were made general superintendents, later called bishops; and by offering leadership and hospitality at the Second Conference of Methodism at Mason-Tillet House/Mason Chapel in 1785; and

Since Edward Dromgoole, Sr., who had been influenced by the anti-slavery teaching of John Wesley and the ruling at the Christmas Conference of 1785 that Methodists should free their enslaved people, Dromgoole became convinced of the injustice of slavery and consequently executed in 1791 a deed for the gradual emancipation of his eleven slaves which he carried out, then bought land in the free state of Ohio to settle (as he wrote in 1805) " because he wanted to move to a state where none of the human race are in captivity," but in the end he stayed in Virginia due to the ill health of his wife and other concerns, died in 1835, and bequeathed to his heirs 16 slaves that he had acquired in later years to assist him on his plantation; and

Edward Dromgoole, Sr. served effectively as a travelling preacher during the days of the First Great Awakening and the commencement of the Second Great Awakening during which he wrote "Rich and Poor, Young and Old, Black and White, shared largely of this Divine Visitation"; and

Edward Dromgoole, Sr. helped establish in 1784, along with Bishop Francis Asbury and the Rev. Peter Pelham, the Ebenezer Academy, the first Methodist school in Virginia and possibly in America and forerunner of Randolph-Macon College in Boydton, and served as a trustee of Ebenezer Academy which remained under Methodist control until 1800 and which continued until 1846; and

Edward Dromgoole, Sr. felt compelled to abandon itinerancy following the death of two of his children so he could spend more time raising his remaining family and ,consequently, located in 1786 as a local pastor who farmed his plantation called "Sligo", lived in another home that no longer stands, and, according to dendrochronology, built the present home "Canaan" between 1796 and 1798 from whence he traveled to preach the gospel when needed on the Brunswick Circuit from 1786 to 1835 and also ran a store, operated a sawmill, and served as a magistrate of the Brunswick County Court for 45 years; and

Edward and Rebecca Dromgoole offered housing and hospitality to Methodist preachers in their previous home and at "Canaan" such as Richard Whatcoat, Jesse Lee, Nicholas Snethen, Peter Pelham, and John Easter, made their home a regular stopping and preaching place for Bishop

Francis Asbury on his travels throughout the United States, nursed Asbury back to health in 1798; and'

Bishop Francis Asbury ordained Edward Dromgoole, Sr. as an elder and his sons Edward Dromgoole, Jr. and Thomas Dromgoole as deacons at Dromgoole's Chapel on his last trip to "Canaan" on February 12, 1815 and preached at "Canaan;" and

"Canaan," was also the home of their son George Coke Dromgoole, who served six terms in the United States House of Representatives, and is also the burial place of Edward Dromgoole, Sr. and his family; and

The extensive Dromgoole Collections at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and the Library of Virginia containing the papers of Edward Dromgoole, Sr. and his children form an important source of information for scholars of early Methodism, political life, and plantation life; and

The Old Brunswick Circuit Foundation exists to restore and preserve the home of Edward and Rebecca Dromgoole and needs to establish its historic significance for those providing grants for this historic preservation of the last vestige of the early American Methodist Episcopal heritage of the Virginia Conference.

RECOMMENDATION

The Historical Society of the Virginia Conference recommends that the Virginia Conference of the United Methodist Church petition the General Commission on Archives and History of the United Methodist Church to designate "Canaan," the home of Edward Dromgoole, Sr. as a United Methodist Historic Site and submit the completed application form "Registration of a United Methodist Historic Site" to the said General Commission on Archives and History with the signature of the bishop and conference secretary.