

# Proceedings of the 2004 General Conference of The United Methodist Church

**Wednesday Evening,  
May 5, 2004**

*(continued from page 2148)*

DEBORAH A. MCLEOD (Florida): In our proposal the functions of the General Council on Ministry are accounted for and cared for. They are important. This is a holistic and collaborative small table and it will work. The Connectional Table becomes a full partner with the General Council on Finance and Administration in the budgeting process and in the annual reviews. That's a very new thing, and it's part of the principle that came out of "Living Into the Future." It's diverse. It's inclusive. It's functional. It will hold the general agencies accountable to the annual conferences and the local churches who have the majority of the voting members of the table.

The General Council on Finance and Administration, at our request, estimated that the smaller table will do all of this for \$6.8 million dollars less than "Living Into the Future." The General Council on Ministries distributed some talking points last week in support of "Living Into the Future." We have fulfilled all but one of the General Council on Ministries' stated goals. I urge you to vote "yes" for this proposal to approve it, as it has been amended. Let's live into a new day.

BISHOP CHARLENE P. KAMMERER (Charlotte Area): Alright, thank you Rev. McLeod. Now, I'm going to turn to Bishop Paup, who also has the privilege of making a statement.

BISHOP EDWARD W. PAUP (Portland Area): Thank you, Bishop and I want to thank all of us for the way in which we are seeking to be lead by God's Spirit this night. I would simply want to say that in relation to the proposal that came in from GCOM, this proposal from the committee does not connect the connection. The fact is that

we were seeking to create a table where we would have a finance committee that would be a part of the discernment related to our mission and money. But, by keeping GCFA as a separate entity with General Administration, Episcopal Fund, and other monetary matters at that table not coming to this Connectional Table, we have not yet created the place where all of this comes to the whole. It is not possible, therefore, we believe, to have a holistic approach with this table.

I would also want to say that we suggested to the body that this was the first step. It has been portrayed as if this is going to be so much larger than what might be a much smaller Connectional Table. We are intending to commend to this Connectional Table, the one we are proposing, that they continue the process of reordering our life. It may be that this table we propose of some 130 members becomes a far smaller table than the over 500 directors that currently work on all of our agencies now. Thank you very much.

## *Closing Questions*

BISHOP KAMMERER: Alright, thank you. Now, questions only. Do you have a question? Mic 8.

LONNIE CHAFIN (Northern Illinois): Bishop, Lonnie Chafin, Northern Illinois Conference. I noticed the presidents of the general agencies are on the group of 47. A good number of those are bishops. I'm wondering what would be the total number of bishops of the 47 in the committee's report a.k.a. minority report.

BISHOP KAMMERER: We're moving close to debating again, but I will allow a brief response to that question. Total number of bishops?

MCLEOD: I understand from Miss Johnson that there's no rule on whether a president of a general agency is a bishop or another elected person. So it would depend on who the president of

the agency is as to how many bishops. There would be one bishop selected by the Council of Bishops that would be the chairperson.

BISHOP KAMMERER: Alright, over here, question only. No, the woman behind you. Excuse me, sir. I saw her hand first. Mic 1.

MARY HOYENGA (Dakotas): Mary Hoyenga from the Dakotas Conference. My question is, if we vote up or down on this vote, is there any chance then to go back and vote for the report from the Council on Ministries?

BISHOP KAMMERER: If the minority report prevails, it becomes your main document. You would not or may return to the majority. That's for information only. If it fails, if the minority report fails, we would be back at the majority report. Now, are there questions, questions only, please? Back here, mic 8.

CHARLES S. G. BOAYUE (Detroit): Bishop Charles Boayue, Detroit Conference. One of the original concepts behind a Connectional Table was to link the financial and the program responsibilities around one table. My question is, does this Connectional Table as represented in the minority report allow for GCFA to come directly to the General Conference with an alternative budget when it disagrees with the Connectional Table? Or does the Connectional Table have a final say on which budget or what budget comes ...

BISHOP KAMMERER: Charles.

BOAYUE: ...to the General Conference?

BISHOP KAMMERER: Charles, I'm, I'm sorry, but I need to state that you are now speaking, you're debating. You've raised the question and I'll allow a brief response from the chair, to the primary question.

MCLEOD: The minority report insists that the General Council on Finance and Administration and the

Connectional Table work together and agree on what they bring to the General Conference.

BISHOP KAMMERER: Alright, yes; back here please. Mic 6. Friends, I'm trying to move us to a break soon if you will help me to that. Mic 6.

DEBORAH O'CONNOR-SLATER, (North Central New York): Yes, Deborah O'Connor-Slater, North Central New York, clergy. I'm wondering if you would share with us the rationale that you have lifted up from the minority report for the proportional members to the committee or to the council. And how has that proportion, besides membership, how has that number been established? And of what benefit will this council be to the conferences...

BISHOP KAMMERER: I'm sorry

O'CONNOR-SLATER: ...that are smaller?

BISHOP KAMMERER: I'm sorry. You're asking questions that are not appropriate at this time; that reopens debate. The questions that are appropriate for you to ask have to do with the process and where we are before we take the vote. You have strongly voted that we vote on everything that is before us. So. questions only, please on the process. Yes, right here, no. 2.

MORENIKE IRVING (Mississippi): Morenike Irving, Mississippi Conference. My question was, how did you come to the 6.8 figure?

BISHOP KAMMERER: I'm sorry, that reopens the debate. That is not before us. Yes, sir; up here, mic 5.

D. GIB WALTON (Texas Conference): I move that we limit debate to no more than one more question. Gib Walton, Texas Conference.

BISHOP KAMMERER: Sir, that's out of order because we are not in the debate mode. So, thank you for trying. Yes, in the back, here, mic 6. Question.

LENORA THOMPSON (Eastern Pennsylvania): I just want to ask, Bishop, is it out of order to just clarify something that seems to be redundant?

BISHOP KAMMERER: At this point, I'm afraid it's out of order.

THOMPSON: So, that would.

BISHOP KAMMERER: That reopens the debate on the report itself.

THOMPSON: OK, even though it's just redundancy of language?

BISHOP KAMMERER: Yes.

THOMPSON: OK.

BISHOP KAMMERER: Alright, over here. Do we have a question? Mic 4.

JOHN SCHOL (Eastern Pennsylvania): John School, Eastern Pennsylvania. We've heard that there will be an 8.5 million dollar savings. How much money is allocated under the minority report for the Connectional Table?

BISHOP KAMMERER: That is not before us at this time. That matter will be addressed later after this body votes on this. Are we ready to vote? Alright. I'm going to suggest that we take a moment and we will have a centering prayer and then I will ask you to vote on all that is before us which is the minority report. Let us pray.

*(prayer)*

Please vote now. Alright, you have approved the minority report. [*Yes, 602; No, 314; Abstain, 3*]

Now this is what will be before us. There will be some additional matters related to the Connectional Table as you have adopted it, and I will ask now that we take a recess for 15 minutes. Please be back at your desk at 20 after 9. Let us be in recess.

*(break)*

BISHOP KAMMERER: Alright let's return to our desk please, let's return to the desk. Thank you for the welcome back music to guide us. Let's return to the main plenary hall. Let's quickly move to the desk, and I want to give you an update about where we are and what we need to accomplish this evening, so let's return to the desk please.

Alright, let us be in order. I see a couple of yellow cards. Please let me make my comments first, and then we'll see if maybe one of these addresses your concern. Friends, in just

a moment I will call on the chair of the General Administration Legislation Committee now to guide us first with an ordering motion and then implementation motions from within the committee. So we will need to continue to address now the Connectional Table, which you have adopted.

A concern came to me during the break in regard to time for translation, and I will commit to you that before I use the phrase "Please vote now," there will be a longer pause for you to consider that. Now, you also need to know that we have 30 petitions that we need to complete this evening because they have financial implications, and following the current item that we have on our docket, the Connectional Table, we still have other legislative committees that will need floor time. I know that Bishop Ives reminded the body that we have this hall until midnight. I am not encouraging at all that we stay until midnight, but I'm reminding you that we have 30 petitions and it will help us if we can focus on these as priorities. Now, I'll recognize you, just a moment.

*(pause)*

Alright, sir, at mic 4, will you please take your seat, and I will come back to you after we clear out the main matters of business that were before us when we were voting on all that was before us. We now have a procedural motion to adopt this study, and I'll call on Dr. Tomlinson to give us that, I will come back to you, I promise.

K. EDWARD TOMLINSON (North Georgia): Bishop Kammerer, I move that the minority report become the majority report.

BISHOP KAMMERER: Alright, is there a second? That comes from the committee, does not require a second. This is under the previous question. Are you ready to vote? Please vote now. [*Yes, 637; No, 175; Abstain, 14*]

You have voted that this become the majority report. Now this is what's before us and again I will turn to Dr. Tomlinson to guide us with the committee's help through implementation motions.

TOMLINSON: There are six petitions that we need to address to enable this action, and I call on Debbie McCleod to complete that action with you.

*Connectional Table  
Implementation Motions*

BISHOP KAMMERER: Alright, let us be at attention. Rev. McLeod.

MCLEOD: The first is found in the *DCA* p.1915, Calendar No. 1498. I'm sorry, no it's *DCA* p. 1916, excuse me. The first one is found *DCA* 1916, Calendar No. 1499; Advanced *DCA* Volume 2, p. 902. It's Petition 40615. This provides for the Connectional Table in Paragraph 702 of the General Provisions. This would be concurring as amended. Bishop, may I list all six, and we can act on them all together?

BISHOP KAMMERER: I would like for us to try that as the body. Please continue, you've listed the first.

MCLEOD: The second petition is found on the *DCA* p. 1926, Calendar Item 1515, in the Advanced *DCA* Volume 2, p. 920. It is Petition 40392. As amended, you will find it in Calendar Item 1515. It will reflect the relationship of the GCFA, and the new Connectional Table as defined in Paragraph 806.9. There is, however, a paragraph left out of that petition which needs to be reinserted.

BISHOP KAMMERER: Was—this was editorial, is that what...?

MCLEOD: This was left out in the typing and the printing.

BISHOP KAMMERER: Alright, alright.

MCLEOD: It was approved by the committee and the way that it should read is in Petition 1515, Calendar No. 1515, in 806. Where you see Paragraph (c), letter "c", the current letter (c) needs to be retained, and the paragraph you see there needs to be a new letter (d). So the current letter (c), which is still in the *Discipline* and needs to be retained, says, "It shall recommend the formulas by which all apportionments to the annual conferences shall be

determined subject to the approval of the General Conference." That language is already in the *Discipline* in 806.1. It needs to stay there so that we can apportion the church.

BISHOP KAMMERER: Alright, thank you for that explanation and the next one, please.

MCLEOD: The third petition is in *DCA* p. 1927, Calendar No. 1516, in the Advanced *DCA* Volume 2, p. 909. It is Petition 40099. This deals with Paragraph 703 of the general petition we want you to concur as amended. The fourth one is Calendar Item 1307; it is in the *DCA* on p.1922. It is Petition No. 40104. This deals with the election of the general secretaries by the program agencies and their relationship to the Connectional Table. The fifth petition is found on *DCA* p. 1922; it's Calendar Item 1308, Petition No. 40105. And the committee recommends non-concurrence. It is the deletion of the General Council on Ministries in this paragraph. Those are the amendments.

BISHOP KAMMERER: Alright, you've listed five, is that correct?

MCLEOD: Five is correct. We also have a resolution on the transition, which will come later.

BISHOP KAMMERER: Alright. Now these are implementing motions because you have adopted the Connectional Table. Now this is what's before you. I'm allowing the motion to be an omnibus motion, where you would consider all of these before you. Now, I want to come back to mic 4 if you have a matter you want addressed.

*Handling of the Motions*

MATTHEW LAFERTY (East Ohio): Bishop, Matthew Laferty, East Ohio. It was a motion that the committee is doing. I was going to request that we deal with all these transitional items before we approve the whole report, and they are doing that, so I do not have a motion at this time.

BISHOP KAMMERER: Thank you. Alright, the motion is before you, no. 3. Yes, mic 3.

GARY R HENDERSON (East Ohio): Gary Henderson, East Ohio. Madam chairperson, given the importance of these matters it would be important for me to deal with these item by item, rather than in the omnibus, in the omnibus form. Is that motion in order at this time?

BISHOP KAMMERER: Would you like me to test the house?

HENDERSON: Please, I so move.

BISHOP KAMMERER: Alright. There's the motion to test the house whether you prefer to vote on the five implementing motions in one motion, or do you wish to separate them? Do you understand what we would be voting on?

We will vote on the motion that came from mic 3, to vote on each of the five separately. That is what is before you. If you approve of that, you would vote yes. If you prefer to vote as an omnibus motion on all five, you would vote no. Are you ready to vote?

MCLEOD: Bishop, am I allowed a statement before voting?

BISHOP KAMMERER: Yes. I see a card. Let me address this first. Mic 4. Yes?

KRISTINA J. GONZALEZ (Pacific-Northwest): Kristina Gonzales, Pacific-Northwest. Bishop, is this motion debatable?

BISHOP KAMMERER: A motion to consider them separately? Yes.

GONZALES: Then I would like to speak in favor of this motion. May I do that?

BISHOP KAMMERER: Yes.

GONZALES: I believe that we have something before us that is extremely important to the structure of our church. I know that we're tired and we wish to move on; and I'm a part of the Calendar and Agenda Committee and know that we need to do that. But I think this legislation is important. I know at my table we're trying to track all of these various pieces of legislation, but I think it's important that we take them one by one so that we're clear. Thank you.

BISHOP KAMMERER: That's a speech for the motion. That's two for the motion. The maker of the motion made one. Alright. I believe you're ready to vote. The motion would order the consideration separately of the five items. That is what is before you.

MCLEOD: Bishop, you will allow me to respond?

BISHOP KAMMERER: We'll hear from Rev. McLeod, and then we'll take the vote.

MCLEOD: I want to assure the body that members of our committee worked long and hard with Irene Howard, general counsel of the church, to very carefully comb the *Discipline* in the 700 paragraphs and the 800 paragraphs to make sure that the language that is in each of these petitions reflects the action that you have already taken and the power that you have given to the Connectional Table. So I would urge you in the interest of time that we deal with these as a whole.

BISHOP KAMMERER: Alright. Are you ready to vote? Please vote now. [*Yes, 223; No, 680; Abstain, 2*]

The motion does not prevail. We return to the original motion. All five items are before us. Yes, mic 3, please.

#### *Accountability of GCFA*

PHILLIP KERLIN (East Ohio): Hello, Bishop. Hello, conference. Phillip Kerlin, East Ohio, lay delegate. On p. 1927; Calendar Item 1516; p. 1927; Calendar Item 1516, I move to amend the "Definitions, Structures and Titles—1." section so it reads the following: "Definitions, Structures and Titles—1. General councils are accountable to the Connectional Table, and amenable to the General Conference, and report to it." If I have a second I'll speak to it.

BISHOP KAMMERER: Is there a second? Alright, you may speak to it.

KERLIN: GCFA is the only body—board or agency—not formally accountable to the Connectional Table. In the between time of General Conference, GCFA would be the only

body not authorized by the Constitution to operate without accountability to any representative body of our church. As it stands, GCFA can still make solitary decisions within their agency without being accountable to the community who serves the mission through local churches, jurisdictions, agencies, and the Council of Bishops. I believe that all agencies, including GCFA, should be accountable to the Connectional Table. Right now, as it stands, GCFA is not accountable to the Connectional Table. I know that it was stated that GCFA and the Connectional Table would work together on budgetary matters. However, there is a difference, a distinct difference, between working together and accountability. Thank you.

BISHOP KAMMERER: Alright. The amendment's before us. Yes, sir, mic 7. This is in regard to paragraph... excuse me, Petition 1516, the amendment. Yes?

JAY K. BRIM (Southwest Texas): Thank you, Bishop. Jay Brim, Southwest Texas, lay delegate and also a member of GCFA and of the subcommittee that helped fashion this, the bill-sitter before you. We discussed in, at great length, the need to keep GCFA as a separate entity accountable and amenable only to General Conference.

One of the most important considerations is the fact that GCFA is the board of trustees for the denomination and holds in trust all of the property that belongs to The United Methodist Church. It is extremely important that we maintain this fiduciary responsibility in a body that is separate, and not accountable to, the body that will be doing the budgeting and visioning for the body so that the members of GCFA can remain the trustees for us all and protect our fiduciary interests in both the funds and the property of the denomination.

BISHOP KAMMERER: That would be a speech against the amendment. One and one. Let's go over here to mic 1, please.

#### *Whether to Postpone Indefinitely*

JOHN W. EDGAR (West Ohio): John Edgar, West Ohio. I rise to make what will initially be an unpopular motion. I move that we postpone, indefinitely, all that is before us; and if there's a second, I'd like to speak to it.

BISHOP KAMMERER: It has been seconded. You may speak to it.

EDGAR: I have two minutes in the impossible task of trying to sway this house. But the first rule in general societies for Methodist people is first, and foremost, do no harm. I suggest that I know that as one of the delegates myself, I have no clue as to whether or not what we are in the midst of doing will cause harm or good for this denomination. I don't think there's hardly anyone else in this room that's... that much smarter than me, that they really know what we are in the midst of doing.

It cannot be so essential to stay on time that we have stopped debate over much of what was taking place. People are restless. We are weary. Let us, at least, not violate the basic rule under which we came together. John Wesley told us, "All you have to do to be a United Methodist is have a sincere desire to flee from the wrath to come; and if you have that, then you shall do the following, and the first thing, cause no harm." We were elected to help transform and improve this denomination. We were not brought here late at night to say, "I'm too tired to talk about it, but I'll make a radical change." I know it isn't what you think makes the most sense at first, but think about it a moment later. First, and foremost, do no harm. Postpone until we really know what we're doing. Thank you.

BISHOP KAMMERER: Let me check to make sure you want to postpone indefinitely. Is that correct? The motion?

EDGAR: Yes, Bishop, that is the motion.

BISHOP KAMMERER: Alright. You'll please get that up here. Now that, that is what is before us. And I am going to turn over here, please, mic 4.

ODETTE LOCKWOOD-STEWART (California-Nevada): Thank you, Bishop. Odette Lockwood-Stewart, California-Nevada Annual Conference. I'm speaking in favor of the motion to postpone indefinitely, and I'd like to say just a couple of things. One is I received this very complex, 700 paragraph-implicating document today; and we had our staff and general commission working on something over a long period of time, received that; and then today we've received something which completely changes that. And I'm all in favor of doing a new thing. And I'm very supportive of, of the Connectional Table as an image, and I've heard it's cheaper, it's easier. We can get it taken care of quickly here, and a lot of assurances that everyone's going to be taken care of.

But I don't feel I'm fulfilling my responsibility as a delegate to just swish this through and not really understand what it is and not hear about the one talking point that was not addressed by this. And not hearing how, in one week, this complex thing developed and came to us with one day, less than one day, to consider it. So, maybe we can address this in addition, in addressing budget or something, but I just like to slow us down enough at least to talk about it and think about it.

BISHOP KAMMERER: Alright. That's two speeches for the motion to postpone indefinitely. Yes, no. 1, please.

B. WILEY STEPHENS (North Georgia): Bishop Wiley Stephens, clergy, North Georgia. I rise against, to speak against, this motion. Because as we have learned earlier when this motion was made on another action, it means we can no longer act as a General Conference and bring it back off of any table because it is postponed indefinitely. I don't know about you, but I came to Pittsburgh to do the work of the church; and whether we stay until midnight tonight or whatever, I'd say that brother Wesley would say, "Do the work of the church and be faithful in doing it."

BISHOP KAMMERER: I think that was against. Folks, let me just suggest to you that as your chair, that perhaps the maker of the motion, to postpone indefinitely, will really invalidate what you have already acted on. Would it be possible to say "postpone until tomorrow" if you want more time? I want to get clear with the maker of the motion. Your intent, I guess. Would you please speak to your intent?

EDGAR: My intent was to postpone indefinitely.

BISHOP KAMMERER: Alright. It will stay as it is. Thank you. Yes, mic. 3. We've had two speeches for.

DAVID L. RICHARDSON (California-Pacific): I think it's a point of order.

BISHOP KAMMERER: Point of order.

RICHARDSON: I don't know what I'm even supposed—I'm Dave Richardson, California-Pacific Annual Conference. In this recent process, I don't know which petitions we are dealing with because we didn't put them on the screen. And, and she was reading them and I was trying to find, and by the time I find, she's gone to the next one. I couldn't even move to the amendment, and then there's another amendment. That's my issue of order. I don't know how to deal with anything unless we could get something on the screen so I know specifically and can then follow the legislation. I can't follow it anymore.

BISHOP KAMMERER: Is it possible for us to get something on the screen? Is there a disk to do that, or whatever?

(pause)

Alright, that's a speech against, so we have the two and two. Now, we've fulfilled the guideline. I need to let Rev. McLeod speak and then we'll take any questions before we vote on this motion to postpone indefinitely. Rev. McLeod.

MCLEOD: Thank you. You have already approved the Connectional

Table that will be in the *Discipline*. It has been created by your action. What we have attempted to do is some editorial language that would align paragraphs, the 700 paragraphs which are the general provisions, they allow for the creation of a table agencies council. So these are editorial changes to the 700 paragraphs. To the 800 paragraphs which are the General Council on Finance and Administration—the relationship of the GCFA and the Connectional Table.

In 806.1 we guarantee in this new language that the Connectional Table and the GCFA must work together in budgeting. If you postpone this legislation indefinitely, you will still have the Connectional Table, but you will have contradictory language in the *Discipline* for the next four years. Now we spend hours in our General Administration Committee working with the general council to go carefully through each of these items, and we'd be happy to spend hours with you so that you could come to the same understanding. But it may be that you do not want to spend that much time with us.

BISHOP KAMMERER: Alright. Are we ready to vote? Are there questions? Yes, mic 3.

#### *Parliamentary Inquiries*

EDWARD M. FASHBAUGH (East Ohio): Bishop, Ed Fashbaugh, East Ohio. I have a point of clarification. She said that we passed the Connectional Table. It's my understanding that the Connectional Table has become the main motion that we are now trying to work in, but it's not, we have not approved it, approved the Connectional Table. Is that correct?

BISHOP KAMMERER: Yes we did. You did that by the motion that Dr. Tomlinson offered and you acted on as we convened this session tonight. Alright, yes, over here, mic 4.

THOMAS B. WILSON (Pacific Northwest): Bishop, Tom Wilson, Pacific Northwest Conference. I have a question. You made a comment earlier that has me confused and I wish that

someone there would give us a complete definition of what it means “to postpone indefinitely.”

BISHOP KAMMERER: Alright. From *Parliamentary Procedure At a Glance*, by O. Garfield Jones, the most current edition: “If the motion to postpone indefinitely is defeated, the chair then asks for discussion on the main question, at which time the opposition can use this opportunity to the limit or to compromise. It is of use only to the opposition to the main question. If it is now indefinitely postponed and cannot be brought before the assembly at this session, or at any other time, except by a motion to reconsider.” So, my interpretation would be, if the body votes to “postpone indefinitely” the Connectional Table, these implementing motions may not be brought before the assembly at this session, unless there’s a motion to reconsider. Alright. Procedurally, that’s where we are. Back here, mic 5.

HENRY FREE (Troy): Bishop, Henry Free from the Troy Conference. I’m still unclear about the action that we took on the previous question. Could I ask for a rereading of the motion?

BISHOP KAMMERER: Of the Tomlinson motion? Is that what you’re asking?

FREE: Yes, I was under the impression that we made a vote to make that the main motion, rather than to put it into existence. Could I ask for a rereading of the motion?

BISHOP KAMMERER: Dr. Tomlinson, would you make your motion? Restate it.

K. EDWARD TOMLINSON (North Georgia): My motion was to make the minority report the majority report.

FREE: May I ask, does that mean that we are still to vote on it as a—or that it has become acted upon?

BISHOP KAMMERER: Just a moment.

*(pause)*

I think since there is confusion in the body about the result of the Tomlinson

motion, I will suggest this to you. If you will, having taken action of making it the main motion, the minority report, if you will consider it now, I will entertain a motion for you to adopt it. Point of order? Yes sir, mic. 1.

EDGAR: John Edgar, West Ohio. There’s another motion on the floor. It’s the motion to postpone indefinitely which I made with an understanding that is congruent with the ruling you just made. I believe that you have, and I think it’s accurate, at the beginning of our time after the recess, had us vote to say we were going to make the minority report the majority report. We did that.

BISHOP KAMMERER: That was my ruling.

EDGAR: Right. Then we did a lot of other things. Then I made what I believe is a motion that is in order, to postpone indefinitely all that is before us, around us—it includes the fact that the minority report is now the majority report. If I am right in what I am saying, it would be out of order to handle any matter other than the one that is before us. Will we, or will we not, postpone indefinitely all that is before us around the Connectional Table? Thank you, Bishop.

BISHOP KAMMERER: Alright. The result of your motion would be to kill the main motion. Is that correct? To adopt the report. It’s alright.

EDGAR: I bet you’re asking a question.

BISHOP KAMMERER: Point of order. Where did I—yes, back here, point of order, no. 7.

STEPHEN P. TAYLOR (South Carolina): Thank you Bishop, Stephen Taylor, South Carolina delegation, clergy. If there was some confusion about that vote, it seems we would go back to the motion that was passed by this body prior to the recess when we suspended the rules to act on everything before us. That would have included making the minority report to become the majority report, and then acting upon the majority report. We thought that had taken place, and thus were

moving to implementing petitions. If there is confusion, we still need to go back to the motion to, where we suspended the rules, and then needed to act on everything, it seems to me.

BISHOP KAMMERER: Alright. That—your interpretation is how I understood the action of the body prior to the recess. Yes, mic. 7.

CHARLES D. WHITE JR. (Western North Carolina): Bishop, I’m Denny White from your annual conference in Western North Carolina.

BISHOP KAMMERER: I know you are. Denny White.

WHITE: It’s my pleasure to sit beside you, and now I ask you a question. In our annual conference it’s a pleasure to sit beside you. My friends have asked “Where have I been?” Well, here I am. With respect to Rule 26, which I take it to be the rule under which we have been proceeding with regard to treating this matter as a minority report, which in effect is a substitute. Am I correct so far?

BISHOP KAMMERER: Yes.

WHITE: Then I would ask the chair this question. Is there really any such thing as a motion to make the minority report the majority report? The procedure says, that once the perfecting process has been completed, then the question—I’m reading now in parenthesis 4—the question shall be first put on the motion to substitute, which was what we did first, followed by the motion to adopt the report or resolution, which is what I understood we were doing second. I would suggest to the chair that our common usage of the phrase “to make the minority report the majority report” in fact, has no basis in parliamentary law.

BISHOP KAMMERER: Just a—just a moment, please. Thank you. Alright, friends, I’m going to rule that we are under the previous question of everything that was before us, which would direct that this is the majority report. That would make out of order the motion to postpone indefinitely. I do not know how to help you proceed oth-

erwise. We are under the previous order to make this the main motion.

And now, we will take the vote, if you will sustain that—to adopt the majority report is what we'd be voting on. We need to vote first on this. I'm asking you to sustain my suggestion of where we are. Please, I'm asking you to—we need to vote on this now. We're under the previous question. I've ruled out of order the motion that was before us, and we must get clear on whether this is the majority motion—to adopt it. This would be the result—to adopt the action. Now, please vote now. [*Yes, 688; No, 207; Abstain, 8*]

Alright, you have sustained the chair in helping us try to move forward.

#### *Back to the Five Petitions*

Now, the five petitions are before you as an item, and we will proceed. You may have one statement before we vote. Rev. McLeod. Oh, I'm told we may put the graphics up on the screen. May we have the graphics on the screen so that you'll see the five petitions?

MCLEOD: The first petition is in the *DCA*, p. 1916, Calendar No. 1499; *Advance DCA* p. 909, Petition No. 40615. This brings Paragraph 702 in line with the action you have already taken. The next one is found in the *DCA* page...

BISHOP KAMMERER: Just a moment, just a moment, please. Are you saying we're moving too fast? Thank you, alright. Alright, let's pause and let the people catch up, thank you.

MCLEOD: It might help you to know that the original petition was about litigation, but the petition that you will find in Calendar Item No. 1499 has been amended by the committee to provide in the general provisions for the Connectional Table. So it will help you more to look at Calendar Item No. 1499 on *DCA* p. 1916.

BISHOP KAMMERER: Alright, make a mark, please, in that petition. Now, let us move to the second one.

MCLEOD: The second is to be

found in the *DCA* on p. 1926; p. 1926. It is Calendar Item 1515. In the *Advance DCA*, it is in Volume 2, p. 920; Petition No. 40392. The original petition was to retain Paragraph 806.9. It will be most helpful for you to look in the *DCA* p. 1926 at Calendar Item 1515, because we ask you to concur as amended. This amends to reflect the relationship of the GCFA and the new Connectional Table that you have already acted on. This is the 800 paragraphs of the *Discipline* that define the new relationship of the connectional table and the GCFA. It is the place where I read the correction earlier to allow the Connectional Table and the GCFA to apportion the church. The current Paragraph C remains.

BISHOP KAMMERER: Alright, let's pause for a moment. There were several places you need to look for this petition, to mark. Alright, I see a lot of heads up, so let's proceed to no. 3.

MCLEOD: Third, is page, on the *DCA*, p. 1927; p. 1927; Calendar Item 1516; that's Calendar Item 1516. In the *Advance DCA*, it was found in Volume 2 on p. 909, where it was originally a petition that transferred the GCFA and the GCOM, respectively, to the Connectional Table. We have now amended that to provide for the general provisions of the Connectional Table as you have adopted it in our previous action. It is Petition No. 40099. It will be most helpful if you look at Calendar Item 1516.

BISHOP KAMMERER: Alright, let's take a moment for you to find those references. No. 4, please.

MCLEOD: The fourth is found on the *DCA* p. 1922. It is Calendar Item 1307. It is Petition No. 40104. In the *Advance DCA*, Volume 2, you will find it on 915. It provides for the general agencies to elect their general secretaries, according to the action that you previously took in the Connectional Table.

BISHOP KAMMERER: Alright, and let's move to no. 5.

MCLEOD: The fifth one is found in the *DCA* on p. 1922; Calendar Item

1308. In the *Advance DCA*, Volume 2, it's on p. 1067. It is Petition No. 40105. It amends by deleting "General Council on Ministries."

BISHOP KAMMERER: Alright, we now have the five petitions referenced. Yes, mic 3, please. We're getting ready to vote on all of them as a bundle. Do you have a question?

#### *Return to GCFA Accountability*

PHILLIP KERLIN (East Ohio): Bishop, Phillip Kerlin, East Ohio. As I did previously, I would like, again, on p. 1927, Calendar Item 1516, to amend as was previously done. I move to amend the definition structures, in "Titles—1" section, so it reads, "Definitions, Structures and Titles—1. General Councils are accountable to the Connectional Table and amenable to the General Conference and report to it." If I have a second, I'll speak to it.

BISHOP KAMMERER: Is there a second? Alright.

KERLIN: GCFA is the only board and agency that's not formally accountable to this Connectional Table and in the time in between of General Conference, GCFA would be the only body not authorized by the Constitution to operate without accountability to any representative body of our church. As it stands, the GCFA can still make solitary decisions within their agency without being accountable to the community who serves the mission through our local churches, jurisdictions, agencies, and the Council of Bishops. I believe that all agencies, including GCFA, should be accountable to the Connectional Table. Right now, as it stands, GCFA is not accountable to the Connectional Table. I know that it was stated earlier that GCFA and the Connectional Table would work together on budgetary matters. However, there is a distinct difference between working together and accountability. Thank you.

BISHOP KAMMERER: Alright, this amendment that he tried previously got lost in our parliamentary process, so he is re-introducing it. The amendment is

before you. Yes, mic. 3. One speech for.

DONALD W. UNDERWOOD (North Texas): Bishop, Don Underwood, North Texas Conference. I rise to speak against this amendment. Those of us who worked on this legislation spent hours with Irene Howard, the general counsel, and I understand the thinking behind the amendment, but it has profound legal implications for the way in which our denomination is structured. A speaker earlier, when we debated this, mentioned that GCFA functions as the trustee of our denomination and other functions that it really is important that the way in which the denomination is structured remain as it is. And we talked about it. I strongly urge the body to defeat this amendment.

BISHOP KAMMERER: One speech against. Alright, are you ready to vote? Oh, over here, please. Mic. 1.

DAR A. BERKENPAS: (Dakotas): Dar Berkenpas, clergy, the Dakotas Conference. I speak in favor of the amendment. Because the committee took three days to make the proposal that we've approved. Our agency took three years, and I think we need to continue to perfect what has been brought to us.

BISHOP KAMMERER: Alright, we now have two speeches for. I'll ask the Reverend—yes, do you wish to speak against? Alright, mic 1. Well, OK, I'll recognize you. I was looking at someone else, but you're there, so go ahead please.

JOEL E. MOONEYHAN (North Georgia): I would speak against this amendment. Simply because when working together in trust, you inherently hold each other accountable. So I would say that just because the language does not say that GCFA is accountable, I would think that working together implies accountability. So I speak against the amendment.

BISHOP KAMMERER: Alright, I'm calling for the vote. We have two speeches for and two against. A question? Mic 3.

DON W. MENDENHALL (Wisconsin): Don Mendenhall, Wisconsin Conference, laity. Could we have the—the people who worked with the Living Into the Future respond to that same question around “how do they handle the issue around GCFA being a trustee?”

BISHOP KAMMERER: Not—not at this time. I believe in the debate you've had persons who served on that committee to speak to those points. Now Rev. McLeod, you may speak before we take this vote on this amendment.

DEBORAH A. MCLEOD (Florida): I do ask you to defeat the amendment. We want to retain the separate fiduciary responsibilities of the GCFA. The GCFA is accountable to the General Conference—that is clear in this document. So we ask you to defeat the amendment, and trust a “new thing.”

BISHOP KAMMERER: Alright, the five petitions are before you. Number—excuse me, the amendment—excuse me, the amendment, pardon me. The amendment is before you. Are you ready to vote? Please vote now. [*Yes, 222; No, 673; Abstain, 8*]

The amendment does not prevail. We're back to the motion—yes, mic 1.

JOE M. WHITTEMORE (North Georgia): Bishop, is a motion in order to suspend the rules and vote on all that is before us?

BISHOP KAMMERER: Yes, I believe that's where we are. It is in order.

WHITTEMORE: I would like to make that motion, please.

BISHOP KAMMERER: Alright. It's been seconded. If you suspend the rules, then we will vote and proceed ahead with our remaining agenda. Now, it will require two-thirds vote of the body if you wish to suspend the rules. This is what is before you. Please vote now. [*Yes, 724; No, 150; Abstain 5*].

You have suspended the rules, and now we will take the vote on the five petitions. It is time to take the vote. Question? Alright, no. 3.

*Clarification of Calendar Items  
1307 and 1308*

BECKY HASSE (California-Pacific): Becky Hasse, California-Pacific. I just wanted to confirm that items no. 1307 and 1308 are both non-concurrence. Is that the committee's response on those items? 1307 and 1308 is non-concurrence, is that correct?

MCLEOD: It's to concur as amended on 1307, on the election of general secretaries. It's to concur as amended on 1308, which deletes General Council on Ministries.

HAASE: Is that printed somewhere else other than on page 1922? Because they both say non-concurrence on that page.

MCLEOD: All five are to concur as amended.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: No, they're saying no.

BISHOP KAMMERER: Just—just a moment please. Let me have the committee take the time to sort out this.

*(pause)*

Alright, let us be at attention.

EDWARD K. TOMLINSON (North Georgia): To make all of our language consistent—to make all of our language consistent, we're voting non-concurrence on all five of those items. So we're amending.

BISHOP KAMMERER: Let's try again.

TOMLINSON: Well, it's a complicated process, indeed, and it is for you all to have the chair's indulgence.

BISHOP KAMMERER: May I ask...

TOMLINSON: All I can share with you, is that in Calendar Item 1307, we're recommending non-concurrence, and we did amendment. In the 1308, we recommended non-concurrence and amended by deleting 71425. And in a...

BISHOP KAMMERER: Alright; let me just clarify for the body, the paperwork that was submitted to the secre-

tarial staff in regard to Petitions 1307 and 1308 is non-concurrence. That was your question, and that would be the response.

HAASE: May I follow up with another question? Is that covered then in the original petition that we adopted? I'm sorry with all the...

BISHOP KAMMERER:—is that covered in the original petition is the question? The question is, "Is this covered then in the original petition?"

MCLEOD: Bishop Yeakel has asked that I read to you the language in the amendment—amended version of 1307 and 1308—is that what you'd like me to do?

BISHOP KAMMERER: I think it would be helpful to the body. Please proceed.

MCLEOD: The action that we need would be to concur as amended. Let me read to you 1307 as amended: "*Election of General Secretaries of Program Agencies*. The general secretary of each general program agency that is accountable to the Connectional Table shall be elected annually by ballot of the board of the agency involved. Each general program agency shall elect annually..." It continues unchanged after that. This empowers the general agencies to elect their own general secretaries. The action that we need to take would be to concur as amended.

BISHOP KAMMERER: Alright, thank you Becky I'm going to turn to mic 4 now.

MCLEOD: Bishop Yeakel is suggesting I read the second one as well. Would you like me to do that?

BISHOP KAMMERER: Hans, if you will stay in place, and we'll have the second reading, and then I'll come back to you.

MCLEOD: Calendar No. 1308; the amendment is to delete—to amend by deleting, and this says: "The general secretary of the General Council on Ministries," etc. So, for this paragraph, we would need to concur with the

amendment. The amendment is to delete.

BISHOP KAMMERER: Alright. This is—this is for information only. We are not debating the work of the committee. Now, mic 4.

HANS VAXBY (Finland-Swedish Provisional): Hans Vaxby, Finland-Swedish Provisional Conference.

BISHOP KAMMERER: Please pull your mic up a little bit.

VAXBY: Hans Vaxby, Finland-Swedish Annual Conference. My question is, "On what page are you when you're reading this?" My Calendar Item 1307 says something totally different.

BISHOP KAMMERER: Alright, let's review 1307 again. It's on the screen. Please check, p. 915 of the previous *DCA*. Look there, please. Alright, I'll turn over here to mic 1.

MIRIAM C. HAGAN (South Georgia): Miriam Hagan, South Georgia. Bishop, could you please ask her to tell us which paragraph we're deleting in—in Petition 1308, or Calendar Item 1308. I don't think she ever told us the paragraph in the *Discipline* that's being deleted.

MCLEOD: It's paragraph 714.5 of the *Discipline*. 714.5, I'm sorry.

BISHOP KAMMERER: Alright, back here, please, mic 6.

MIRIAM HAGAN (South Georgia): 714.5 of the *Discipline*, 714.5, I'm sorry.

#### *Postpone for Half-Hour*

BISHOP KAMMERER: Alright, back to your, please. Mic 6. Go ahead.

MARTIN STONE (Great Britain): Thank you. Martin Stone, Methodist Church of Britain. I really feel for the body and I feel at the moment for the committee and I note the sense of, of slight panic to make sure they get this right and I wonder if it would be helpful if I could move that we postpone this matter for 30 minutes whilst we move on to other business as a general body, to allow the committee time to work out exactly what it is they've

brought before us to make sure it's exactly right and then bring it back to us and we can return to that. I'm conscious we've got some 25 other things to do with as well before we leave this evening.

BISHOP KAMMERER: Alright, it's been moved and seconded that we postpone this matter for 30 minutes for the body to return to it. That is what's before you. Yes, mic 4, do you have a question? Point of order.

FRED BREWINGTON (New York): Thank you, Bishop. Fred Brewington, New York Annual Conference. I would ask the court—ask the court, how do you like that, judge?—Bishop, I ask you to please take a look at rule 35 and my point of order is that as I rule, read rule 35, items that are published in the *Daily Christian Advocate* are of record, and I also understand that those things are to be before this body are to be published appropriately. They have not been as far as I can tell...

BISHOP KAMMERER: Sir, there was a motion adopted this morning to suspend the rules to care for that.

BREWINGTON: Not with regard to these amendments. I'm sorry, that is my motion.

BISHOP KAMMERER: It was in regard to the entirety of the minority report. Yes, sir, it was, this morning.

BREWINGTON: Thank you, Bishop.

BISHOP KAMMERER: Alright, we are going to vote on the motion to postpone the matter for 30 minutes. Yes, point of order. Yes, sir. Mic 4.

DON J. CUNNINGHAM (California-Nevada): It's on. Bishop, I think this morning we moved to waive the rules in order to take this, these motions without the 24 hour requirement. Is that not right?

BISHOP KAMMERER: That is correct.

CUNNINGHAM: We did not suspend the rules—no. 31, and it's here somewhere—to do it without it being printed.

BISHOP KAMMERER: It was my understanding that we did.

CUNNINGHAM: Well, Bishop, I respectfully disagree with you.

BISHOP KAMMERER: Alright, you have that right. Let's—friends, we need to vote on the five motions, the five petitions. In the back, 7, mic 7.

AUSTIN FREDERICK JR. (Southwest Texas): Bishop, Austin Frederick, Southwest Texas Conference, clergy. I do have a question. Why do you keep asking for questions? We get to the point of, all due respect, Bishop, we get to the point of voting and then persons raise up questions to make an argument for their positions. I would ask that you ask for questions that are germane to the, to the legislation that is properly before us and not things that we have taken in times before.

BISHOP KAMMERER: Sir, the reason I allow it is that you as the body have the right before a vote is taken only for a question or a point of order and that's why I have allowed it. Now, in order to be fair to this body and our speaker from the British Methodist Church, we will vote on the postponement and clear this matter. Are you ready to vote? This would be to postpone for 30 minutes the discussion of the five petitions and the voting on them. Please vote now. [*Yes, 461; No, 434, Abstain, 3*]

You, we voted to postpone for 30 minutes so I will ask that those members of this committee huddle and maybe off the platform and we will go to another item. General Administration, and Ed, if you can proceed with other matters, not related to the Connectional Table, please. Let us be at attention.

K. EDWARD TOMLINSON (North Georgia): Bishop, madam, Marcus Matthews of the Baltimore-Washington Conference will bring several calendar items which have financial implications. Marcus.

BISHOP KAMMERER: Alright, Rev. Matthews.

*Black Church Initiative*

MARCUS MATTHEWS (Baltimore-

Washington): Thank you, Bishop. The first petition is in your *DCA*, p. 1752, Calendar Item No. 1067, in the Advance *DCA*, Vol. 2, p. 943, Petition No. 40092, subject "Strengthening the Black Church Initiative." The legislative committee recommend concurrence unanimously.

BISHOP KAMMERER: Alright, the item is before you. The committee recommends concurrence. Are you ready to vote? Mic 3.

TYRONE GORDON (North Texas): Bishop, Tyrone Gordon, North Texas Annual Conference and I just want to stand in support of strengthening the Black church of the 21st century, for our mission is to make disciples for Jesus Christ. And to strengthen the Black church has breathed new life into many churches.

We're the spiritual children of Harry Hosier who worshipped and served, and like the dry bones in the valley, many of these churches have made use of congregational resource centers which has caused the rattling in the valley of death and they are experiencing new vitality, vigor, and growth. This initiative is a witness that God can bring life out of death, hope out of despair, victory out of defeat. This initiative has shown us that if God can raise Jesus from the dead, God can do anything. And God can raise up dead churches and breathe new life into floundering congregations.

So I rise to stand in support "Strengthen the Black Church for the 21st Century" for it has proven God's word to be true, and it does make disciples for Jesus Christ; and I urge the conference's support. Thank you.

BISHOP KAMMERER: Thank you. That's a speech for. Are we ready to vote? I believe we are. Yes?

DAVID ALAN BARD (Minnesota): David Bard, Minnesota Conference. I just have a question. This petition has financial implications. Would you please let us know how much money we are talking about and what amount of the money in the petition is already included in the GCFA budget? Thank you.

BISHOP KAMMERER: Alright...

MATTHEWS: That amount is 2.2 million for the initiative.

BISHOP KAMMERER: And is it already in the GCF&A?

MATTHEWS: Yes, it is, Bishop.

BISHOP KAMMERER: Yes, alright, that's the information. Alright, do you have a question? Mic 4.

SCOTT JONES (North Texas): Scott Jones from the North Texas Conference. In the financial point of information, Bishop, in the Financial Administration committee, we were told that this was an off budget item so it is not in the 585 million from GCFA. However, it is included in the total package that the Financial Administration Committee has approved and that's why that committee has supported this, because of its connection to the mission of making disciples of Jesus Christ and the emphasis on local churches is the place where disciples are most clearly made.

BISHOP KAMMERER: Alright, thank you for that clarification. Alright, we are ready to vote. Would you please vote now. [*Yes, 793; No, 89; Abstain, 5*]

You have approved it and thank you for the sermon, Dr. Gordon; we needed it at this time of night.

Alright, next petition, please.

MATTHEWS: The second petition is in your *DCA*, the same page, p. 1752, Calendar Item No. 1068, in the Advance *DCA*, Vol. II, p. 946, Petition No. 41410, subject: Strengthening the Black Church for the 21st Century. This is the proposed plan and budget. The background materials can be found in the Advance *DCA* on p. 868, report no. 11. The committee votes concurrence.

BISHOP KAMMERER: Alright, the petition no. 1068 is before you. The committee's recommendation is concurrence. Yes, mic 3.

PAULA J. WHITBECK (Central Texas): I would just remind the body that this is two-point—almost \$2.3 mil-

lion of off-line money. So, we debated quite a bit about \$35,000 earlier. And I just want to make sure that we're clear that this is off-line money being added to the budget over the \$500 million.

BISHOP KAMMERER: I believe that was clarified by the previous speaker, thank you. Yes, mic 3.

JAMES EHRMAN (East Ohio): James Ehrman, East Ohio, also on the Finance.

BISHOP KAMMERER: James, lift up the mic, please. Thank you.

EHRMAN: James Ehrman, East Ohio, also on the Finance Committee. I passed a note back, we're trying to coordinate this whole thing of what we have and have not considered. And I passed the wrong note back. The 2.2 million on the previous one was within the budget. The 2.268 million that we're talking about right now is the money that Dr. Jones talked about that we have considered and it is within the cap that we have been working with on the committee. So, the numbers are separate but they've also both passed muster of the committee.

BISHOP KAMMERER: Alright, further clarification, thank you. Alright, would you like to speak before we...

MATTHEWS: No, I think we're ready.

BISHOP KAMMERER: Alright, please vote now. [*Yes, 742; No, 122; Abstain, 5*]

You have sustained the committee's recommendation. Next.

#### *Special Programs*

MATTHEWS: The third petition is found in the *DCA*, p. 1752, Calendar Item No. 1071. In the Advance *DCA*, volume 2, p. 843, Petition No. 41585, subject: GCOM's Report No. 5; "Report and Recommendation for Themes, Missional Priorities and Special Programs." The committee recommends concurrence as amended. The legislative committee requests General Conference to approve \$1,320,000 for 2005-2008 quadrenni-

um. The funding would be used to better coordinate and encourage more equitable distribution of church resources for mission and ministry in both Africa and Latin America and the Caribbean.

BISHOP KAMMERER: Alright, the committee's recommendation is concurrence as amended. It is before you. Yes, mic 4, please.

PAUL J. EXTRUM-FERNANDEZ (California-Nevada): Bishop, members of the General Conference, Paul Extrum-Fernandez, California-Nevada, Western Jurisdiction. I rise to make an amendment. And this is going to be a little confusing. I would advise...

BISHOP KAMMERER: That would be the first time tonight, that we have that.

#### *Additional Funds*

EXTRUM-FERNANDEZ: I would ask you to turn to p. 843 in the *ADCA*, and under Report No. 5 after point No. 1: "Holistic Strategy on Africa." At the end of that particular paragraph, add the following: "an additional \$4 million will be allocated from the World Service Fund." And then continuing, at the end of point no. 2: "Holistic Strategy on Latin America and the Caribbean." At the end of that paragraph: "an additional \$1 million will be allocated from the World Service Fund." And if I have a second, I'll speak to it.

BISHOP KAMMERER: It's been seconded, you may speak to it.

EXTRUM-FERNANDEZ: I believe there's been a serious oversight regarding the item before us. The \$35 million and \$8 million dollar figures do not represent new money. The \$1,320,000 million that is in the budget there is for coordination, not for new programming. You may recall that we adopted Calendar Item No. 295 on p. 1624 a day or two ago. And this was part of a consent calendar item. That item included funding in the amount of \$5 million for this item on a holistic strategy for Africa and Latin America and the Caribbean. Unfortunately, it did not get referred to GCFA according to our rules.

The additional funds requested would provide new money for important new ministries in Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean; planting new churches, educating leaders for mission, providing financial assistance for pastors, telling the story of Jesus. If we are going to behave like a global church, we need to support that effort with our prayers, our presence and our money. Will we proclaim the Gospel and address critical needs among the poor? GCOM was right in calling our attention to this vital ministry. Let's correct this oversight and put some money behind this proclamation.

BISHOP KAMMERER: Alright, now the motion is before you. Paul, do you have a copy to bring up here? And I'm going to ask you, please, to come back to the mic and make sure that the body understands on p. 843 the two special programs being recommended. Your motion is adding money to both point one and point two. Please clarify the amount of money in each paragraph.

EXTRUM-FERNANDEZ: New money, so it's an additional \$4 million from the World Service Fund.

BISHOP KAMMERER: That's in no. 1, correct?

EXTRUM-FERNANDEZ: That's no. 1.

BISHOP KAMMERER: Alright.

EXTRUM-FERNANDEZ: And then under no. 2: \$1 million.

BISHOP KAMMERER: From World Service...

EXTRUM-FERNANDEZ: From World Service Fund. The other amounts are not from the World Service Fund directly, but from the budgets of the different agencies supporting those items.

BISHOP KAMMERER: Alright, now that is what's before you. Yes, mic 3.

EHRMAN: Jim Ehrman, East Ohio, member of the Financial Administration committee. I really don't want to give this speech. As we went through a very painful process of trying to look at total

budget, I'll confess that I was one of the people who would like to see the bargain for number be considerably higher. And I made a pretty impassioned speech about doing that because I believe that our denomination is capable, eventually, of doing that. But the reality of where we are right now has led the committee to set what we believe is a doable but a challenging cap.

This number for this vital ministry along with other numbers from any other vital ministries are not going to be able to be done under the current state of the church. That saddens me. But it's a reality of where we are in the bargain. I would suggest to the body that what we do is keep in mind the negotiated bargain for number. If you want to personally keep track of the things you would like to do: that don't quite fit, wait until we get done, and then let's go through and bargain for what do you want to try and do in addition. But let's have them all on the table before we start, that rather than the appeal of one thing at a time; each of which we could probably all support individually.

BISHOP KAMMERER: Alright, that's a speech against the Fernandez motion. Back here, mic 6, please.

PEDRO SEBASTIAO (Western Angola): (*unintelligible*)

BISHOP KAMMERER: Translation please.

SEBASTIAO: [*simultaneous interpretation*] Thank you very much, Bishop. With your permission, I would like to be translated. I would like to speak in Portuguese. I'm Pedro Sebastiao, a delegate from the Angola Conference. Africa is a continent in suffering with several tribal wars, political wars, with a lot of illiteracy. We have clergy and lay people with limitations. They cannot go to the university, the African University. But they carry out laudable work, a valuable work for the local communities. And therefore, they must be prepared and they need training.

Africa is critically in need of help. It seems to me that up to now nothing has

been voted for Africa except for the African University. This is where I ask the chair and particularly all the laudable delegates to this conference, your sensitivity in supporting this petition. In order to meet the needs that I have listed and to carry out the programs lined out. Thank you very much.

BISHOP KAMMERER: Alright, that would be speech for. Yes, mic 4.

KARL K. STEGALL (Alabama-West Florida): Karl Stegall, Alabama-West Florida Conference.

BISHOP KAMMERER: Now we've had two speeches for. Are you speaking against, Karl?

STEGALL: Yes.

BISHOP KAMMERER: Thank you.

STEGALL: I'm speaking against. I'm not speaking against the program, and I want to do all that we can for Africa. I would simply hope that those of us who emphasize open hearts and open minds would be open enough to understand that our United Methodist Church is facing a financial crisis.

Lyle Shallow spoke to one of our general boards recently, and one of his messages to us was that you cannot have a decreasing membership and a decreasing financial base and have increasing apportionments. Lyle Shallow shared with us some alarming statistics from respective annual conferences. In his most recent financial statistics available, one conference decreased their giving to apportionments last year—the general church apportionments—by the amount of \$411,000. A second conference decreased their giving by \$277,000. A third conference decreased their giving by \$209,000. In sharp contrast, North Georgia increased their giving \$310,000; Texas, \$263,000; North Texas, \$242,000.

BISHOP KAMMERER: Karl—

STEGALL: Florida, \$185,000—

BISHOP KAMMERER: I'm alerting you, you've got 30 seconds to summarize—

STEGALL: Thank you so much. If we do not put any fiscal restraints on

this increasing budget, all of us are going to have move to North Carolina, Georgia, Florida, or Texas, for these conferences will soon be paying the majority of all of our apportionments. Thank you.

BISHOP KAMMERER: All right. That's two speeches, now, for and two against. Are you ready to vote on the Paul Extrum-Fernandez motion? Yes? Is this a question? All right, mic. 3.

CONSTANCE L. ACE (Greater New Jersey): Constance Larkey Ace, Greater New Jersey Annual Conference. Bishop, this is just a question of clarification. I'm trying to understand how the \$35 million plus \$4 million and the—on Item 1 on p. 843—and the addition \$1 million—also on p. 843, Item 2—relate to the numbers that are on p. 851, where it shows that the total for the holistic strategy in Africa is the \$35 million and that the amount for Latin American and Caribbean is \$8 million. I don't quite see how those relate.

BISHOP KAMMERER: All right, I'm going to ask the maker of the motion, please, to try to briefly speak to this, and then we're going to take the vote. Paul, please come to mic 4.

EXTRUM-FERNANDEZ: I realize that when I made the motion that I didn't refer to p. 851. On the sheet that I handed in, it talked about those columns on p. 851 that have \$4 million and \$1 million. Then I think you have the sheet up there. So that the bottom figure on that column, the second column, would be \$6,320,000; and then the total amount, \$50,320,000 on the far right bottom corner.

BISHOP KAMMERER: All right. That's the explanation to the graph, or the chart on p. 851. Are you ready to vote on the Fernandez motion? Please vote now. [*Yes, 287; No, 542; Abstain, 29*]

It does not prevail. All right, now the petition is before us.

#### Closing Speech

MARCUS MATTHEWS (Baltimore-Washington): I can—the two special

programs being recommended, Bishop, one is the holistic strategy on Africa. It's a special program that will be coordinated by the General Board of Global Ministries in collaboration with several agencies to be funded at \$35,000, funding provided through the participating agencies through their quadrennial budgets.

Second, the holistic strategy on Latin America and the Caribbean, a special program coordinated by the General Board of Global Ministries in collaboration with several agencies, to be funded at \$8 million, with funding provided through the participating agencies through their quadrennial budgets.

During the quadrennium, there were consultations involving general agencies, the Council of Bishops, and Central Conference leaders. This process revealed the desirability for a holistic strategy for Africa that maximizes ministry through effective coordination efforts and more equitable distribution of church resources. The legislative committee is recommending to this General Conference the approval of \$1,320,000 for the quadrennium 2005 through 2008. Funding would be used to better coordinate and encourage more equitable distribution of our church resources for mission and ministry.

The recommendation comes from the committee for you, your consideration.

BISHOP KAMMERER: All right. Petition 1071. This is before you. Are you ready to vote? Please vote now. [*Yes, 653; No, 211; Abstain, 10*]

You have sustained the committee's recommendation. Do you have other petitions, or you're finished?

*Study on Latin America  
and the Caribbean*

MATTHEWS: Yes, Bishop. On Monday, there was a petition dealing with the study on Latin America and the Caribbean. It was tabled and we need to move it from the table for consideration tonight. And so I move that we take from the table *DCA* p. 164,

Calendar Item No. 527, Advance *DCA*, Vol. 2, p. 1068, Petition No. 41379. The subject again is Study on Latin America and the Caribbean. There were several questions raised about the petition—

BISHOP KAMMERER: All right—

MATTHEWS: Yes.

BISHOP KAMMERER: Dr. Matthews, the move to take from the table is not debatable. We will vote on that, and it will require a majority vote. So the motion involves removing from the table this matter that he described to you that we dealt with earlier in the week to put on the table. Please vote now. [*Yes, 746; No, 112; Abstain, 3*]

You have removed it from the table. It is now before us.

MATTHEWS: The question came around whether there was funding for the study in the amount of \$425,000. There was much confusion in the body. What we did, we met with Mary Silver, the author of the petition, who is representing the Methodist Associated Representing the Cause of Hispanic Americans, and we both agreed that the petition was not requesting funding. You'll also notice that in the funding list from GCFA, that has been removed. The study has been removed from the funding list from GCFA.

BISHOP KAMMERER: All right. Can you point us now to the petition again at 60527, correct?

MATTHEWS: Yes.

BISHOP KAMMERER: All right. This is before us. It—you're saying it has no funding—

MATTHEWS: Right.

BISHOP KAMMERER: —implications, but it has yet to be acted on. Is that correct?

MATTHEWS: Right and the committee—

BISHOP KAMMERER: All right.

MATTHEWS: recommends concurrence.

BISHOP KAMMERER: The committee's recommendation is concurrence. Are you ready to vote? Please

vote now. [*Yes, 808; No, 52; Abstain, 3*]

*Return to Connectional Table*

All right, you have sustained the recommendation of the committee. Now, friends, we are exactly at the 30-minute mark that you ordered that we would postpone the bundling of the petitions, so we will come back to that now. And let me confer with how we want to move forward. Please hold steady.

BISHOP KAMMERER: We have a new ordering motion, which I will allow from the committee.

MCLEOD: Bishop, I move that we take Calendar Item 1499, 1515, and 1516 this evening. Those are the three that are printed and that we have been reviewing. And then, tomorrow, in your *DCA*, we will have 1307 and 1308 printed for you. So if we could deal with the first three, alone, and I'm sorry for the confusion.

BISHOP KAMMERER: Alright, the motion's before you. Please vote now. [*Yes, 815; No, 59; Abstain, 5*]

Alright, the body has approved the dealing with the three, to bundle, and the two additional we'll hear from tomorrow. Please proceed.

MCLEOD: Jonathan Baker of the General Administration Committee will come to make a resolution about the transition team. Bishop, it has financial implications that must be dealt with. This...

BISHOP KAMMERER: Alright. Point of order, no. 4, Dr. Jones.

SCOTT J. JONES (North Texas): Scott Jones, North Texas. I hope all of us are wanting to be clear about what we just decided. It was my understanding, Bishop, that was a procedural motion to separate the three petitions from the two that would be dealt with tomorrow. Have we, in fact, approved those three petitions?

BISHOP KAMMERER: Yes.

JONES: Bishop, I respectfully ask that you put the three petitions to a vote so that we are clear on what we have done, because that was not the under-

standing of the people sitting around me.

BISHOP KAMMERER: Alright. Since the body seems to be unclear and there is some understanding that it was a procedural motion. We will now vote on the bundling of the motions, the three that were cited, that you said you would allow. Are you ready to vote? Please vote now. Please vote now. [*Yes, 747; No, 119; Abstain, 12*]

You have concurred with the recommendation of the committee. And now, we'll go to the transition resolution, please.

MCLEOD: Jonathan Baker, clergy from Peninsula-Delaware will present the resolution that empowers the transition team.

#### *Transition Team*

JONATHAN O. BAKER (Peninsula-Delaware): Bishop, in order to ensure the functions of GCOM and the Connectional Table, I move the following: A transition team, not to exceed ten members, shall be convened by a designee of the Council of Bishops and include three persons selected by the General Council of Ministries, two persons from the General Council on Finance and Administration, three persons selected by the Council of Bishops, assuring participation of at least one central conference member, and the general legal counsel. The transition team will be accountable to the Connectional Table. The transition team will convene following the 2004 General Conference to develop and implement a plan to convene the Connectional Table and provide for the orientation and training of the Connectional Table until such time as the Connectional Table has organized to assume responsibility for its work.

The transition team shall develop a process and designate persons to ensure that the functions and responsibilities of the GCOM, the transfer of corporate assets and liabilities to the trustees of the denomination, and personnel and other essential matters of transition are—are clearly defined as

responsibilities are transferred to the Connectional Table by January 1, 2005.

In order to ensure continuing program and support services previously provided by the General Council on Ministries, the Connectional Table may, at its discretion, continue the employment of current GCOM personnel through the transition.

The General Council on Finance and Administration will provide a contingency fund for the Connectional Table during the 2005-2008 quadrennium, sufficient to ensure the essential functions of GCOM, including the provision of any necessary funds to agencies if such functions are transferred to those agencies, so as not to negatively impact existing ministries and programs of those agencies, and to support the work of the transition team. The General Council on Ministries and the General Council on Finance and Administration will provide the necessary interim support staff for the transition team.

After January 1, 2005, the transition team may continue to function under the authority of the Connectional Table until it is released from its duties by the Connectional Table, or until January 30, 2005, whichever comes first.

BISHOP KAMMERER: I believe you meant June 30, 2005, whichever comes first, is that correct?

BAKER: That's correct.

BISHOP KAMMERER: Alright, now this is a resolution, is it my understanding that the body does not have this in printing before them?

BAKER: That's correct.

BISHOP KAMMERER: The resolution is before you. Yes. Mic 3. Did you wave the card?

#### *Procedural Motions*

JEANIE TREVINO-TEDDLIE (Central Texas): Jeannie Trevino-Teddle, Central Texas Conference. I move that we postpone voting on this matter until after the body has written copy of what was read, so that would be sometime tomorrow, after that is before us.

BISHOP KAMMERER: Alright, there is a second. The motion would delay action on this resolution until sometime tomorrow and would provide that you get a copy of this in writing. I'm informed that the secretarial staff needs this in hand within ten minutes, and I'm sure you can here—its right here. That is done. Alright, the motion is before you. Please vote now. [*Yes, 629; No, 246; Abstain, 7*]

You have agreed with the motion. We will not act on this until sometime tomorrow and until you have it before you in writing.

Alright, Dr. Tomlinson, do you have other items?

K. EDWARD TOMLINSON (North Georgia): I have two omnibus items I would like to suggest to the body. I would move that all items related to LIF, excluding Calendar Items 1307 and 1308, which were lifted from the Consent Calendar this morning, determined as non-concurrent from the committee and thereby adopted.

BISHOP KAMMERER: Alright, and the LIF is the Living Into the Future document, is that correct?

TOMLINSON: That's correct.

BISHOP KAMMERER: Yes, alright, the motion's before you. Please vote now. [*Yes, 779; No, 94; Abstain, 13*]

Alright, you have sustained the committee's motion, and I believe you have one more, Dr. Tomlinson?

TOMLINSONS: At the request of the Committee on Correlation and Editorial Revision, I place this motion that places in the *Discipline*, other than provisions addressed in the legislation, that refer to the General Council on Ministries shall be changed to substitute "the Connectional Table."

BISHOP KAMMERER: Alright, that is before you. Please vote now. [*Yes, 805; No, 61; Abstain, 11*]

You have sustained the committee's recommendation, and I do believe that completes the items, except for the resolution you will deal with tomorrow from General Administration, is that correct?

MCLEOD: No.

BISHOP KAMMERER: Only from Dr. Tomlinson. Just a moment, please.

TOMLINSON: We still have items to bring from financial implications.

BISHOP KAMMERER: Alright, we are—just to remind the body, we're going to try to work 'til midnight. Will you hang in there with me? Alright, and we'll proceed ahead. Dr. Tomlinson?

TOMLINSON: OK, Marcus Matthews has further calendar items.

*Other General Administration Items*

MARCUS MATTHEWS (Baltimore-Washington): Bishop, we have four more from our subgroup. The first will be in the *DCA*, p. 1753, Calendar Item No. 1073, Advance *DCA*, volume two, p. 944, Petition No. 41114, subject: National United Methodist Native American Center. The committee recommends concurrence.

BISHOP KAMMERER: Alright, the committee recommendation—concurrence is before you. Yes, over here, mic 1.

JERRY H. MOORE (Arkansas): Jerry Moore from the Arkansas Conference. I'd like to remind the chair that we've been trying to get recognition for at least an hour on this side for—upon the privilege or ask the church could we stand up for at least three minutes, please.

BISHOP KAMMERER: Let's please vote on this, and I will certainly grant that to you. And I apologize if you've been waiting for an hour for recognition.

MOORE: And I'm wearing the blue shirt—I'm sure it has been seen.

BISHOP KAMMERER: You can begin your standing now, but let's vote on this, OK?

Alright, please vote, now. [*Yes, 648; No, 171; Abstain, 14*]

Alright, you have sustained the committee. Let us stand. I don't know if you can work while you stand, but we'll stand for a couple of minutes here and stretch. And if you want to give

your neighbor a back rub, that would be wonderful.

*(break)*

Alright, you've got thirty more minutes to stretch and finish the back rubs, then we're back at it, folks. Thirty seconds, thirty seconds!

I'm ready for the one hour massage myself! Alright, please return to the desk, unless you can stand and—really, we need to be seated, because that will be distracting for me to figure out who to recognize. Let us, let us be seated. Let us be seated and in order. Alright, yes, but do you have a question? Point of order, mic 4.

DAN J. GARA (California-Pacific): Dan Gara, California-Pacific, Bishop. Point of order I rise to. On our last vote there, I do not believe... I know it's getting late, but we did not have any discussion or debate on that; and it did have financial implications that were clearly we weren't able to speak to. Is that correct?

BISHOP KAMMERER: All of them have financial implications, and we've not spoken to others that passed. I saw no cards.

GARA: Yes, we've been speaking, I believe, to almost all of them from Financial Administration, Bishop. Well, at least that one didn't have any—

BISHOP KAMMERER: Did you vote for it?

GARA: Yes, I did in fact.

BISHOP KAMMERER: Well, you have the privilege to make a motion to reconsider then. That's why I'm asking if you want to revisit it.

GARA: I would like to revisit it. So, I would like to ask to be reopened—as least to be able to give the position from Financial Administration on that particular budget item.

BISHOP KAMMERER: Alright, moved to reconsider. Takes the majority vote. Alright, we're going to vote on the move to reconsideration. Please vote now—of the last petition, of the last petition. [*Yes, 213; No, 542; Abstain, 6*] It is not sustained.

Alright, back in this, in the back in this section. Mary Alice Massey, I saw your card.

*Extend Financial Implication Deadline*

MARY ALICE MASSEY (Florida): Mary Alice Massey from Florida, lay delegate, chair of the Agenda Committee. I move to extend the deadline for submissions of petitions with financial implications until tomorrow, May the 6th; until noon tomorrow, May the 6th. Is there is a second? I'll speak to it.

BISHOP KAMMERER: Alright, you may speak to it briefly.

MASSEY: It almost seems obvious that we will not get to the remaining petitions tonight before the deadline for leaving the auditorium. We need to come back in the morning with a fresh face, renewed vigor, and consider the rest of these petitions so that we can have them out to get to GCF&A by noon tomorrow. It will place a difficult time constraint on them, but I have been assured that they can do it. The petition plan has no financial implications, so it will be taken up in the afternoon.

BISHOP KAMMERER: Alright, this would be... the motion is to extend the deadline to consider petitions until noon tomorrow those that are not going to be completed tonight. That is what is before you. Please, vote now. [*Yes, 767; No, 55; Abstain, 5*]

Thank God, you have approved the motion.

*(applause)*

Now friends, we've—this doesn't mean we're not going to work 'til midnight. I think, I think we need to try to do that. And I can not thank you enough for your perseverance and patience, and we will proceed ahead. I'm going to turn to Dr. Matthews again please.

MATTHEWS: Bishop, there are two petitions that were removed from the Tuesday, May 4th *DCA*. The first is found in your *DCA* p. 1733, Calendar

Item No. 826; Advance *DCA*, Volume 2, p. 919, Petition No. 41271; Subject: "World Service Allocations." The committee had recommended non-concurrence. Our rationale was that you need both GCOM, or its successor, and GCFA together determining the World Service allocations. You need to have at the table both program and money, making these decisions.

BISHOP KAMMERER: Alright Petition 826 is before you. The committee recommends non-concurrence. Please vote now. [*Yes, 767; No, 55; Abstain 5*]

BISHOP KAMMERER: You have sustained the committee. Next please?

MATTHEWS: The second is found in your *DCA*, p. 1733, Calendar Item No. 825; Advance *DCA*, p. 898; Petition 41458; Subject: "National American Scholarship Requirement."

BISHOP KAMMERER: Pardon me. *Native American*.

MATTHEWS: Scholarship Requirement.

BISHOP KAMMERER: I believe you said "national"...

MATTHEWS: I'm sorry.

BISHOP KAMMERER: And it's "native."

MATTHEWS: The committee recommends non-concurrence. Our rationale is that it eliminates two-year service for Native American students attending United Methodist schools. This condition only exists for Native American scholarships, and so we feel that we need to be consistent with that scholarship, as well as all of the others. And this is our rationale for the non-concurrence.

BISHOP KAMMERER: Petition 825, the committee recommends non-concurrence. Please vote now. [*Yes, 794; No, 56; Abstain, 8*] You have sustained the committee's recommendation. Next?

#### *Holistic Strategy Fund*

MATTHEWS: Bishop, our last petition is found in your *DCA*, p. 1624; Calendar Item No. 295; in the Advance

*DCA*, p. 1069; Petition No. 41557. The subject is "Holistic Strategies." The committee recommends concurrence. The committee supports the development of a missional fund of \$5 million to provide additional funding for mission and ministries. Funds, if approved, will be divided or distributed: \$4 million for Holistic Strategy on Africa, and \$1 million for the Holistic Strategy on Latin America and the Caribbean. The committee does support the development of this missional fund.

BISHOP KAMMERER: Alright. You have heard the rationale of the committee. That's before you. Yes? Back here, mic 7.

STEPHEN P. TAYLOR (South Carolina): Stephen Taylor, South Carolina, clergy. Just a question. Didn't we just address this in another motion? And how would this be different from what we've already voted?

BISHOP KAMMERER: Would you respond please?

MATTHEWS: Yes. Paul did refer to this when he attempted an amendment to our first petition. When this was before the subcommittee, it was not for us to vote on for a budget; there was no budget before us. We simply offered our support for the development of a missional fund. And so this petition does not ask for funds; it simply said that we support the development of a missional fund to be used for new ministries for these two holistic strategies.

BISHOP KAMMERER: Alright. Yes? Back here, mic 5.

JILL HICKS (North Alabama): Jill Hicks, North Alabama. I would remind the group that this is, I think, additional askings. We have already within the World Service budget... is \$35 million for Africa and \$8 million for Latin America. So we're talking \$5 extra million. We have already approved an additional \$1.2 million. Thank you.

MATTHEWS: What you have in this petition on p. 1069 is simply asking for support for the development of a missional fund as they work into this process. It's my understanding also

from the maker of this petition that if funds were available, these funds would be used for new initiatives, for new ministries, in both of those initiatives.

BISHOP KAMMERER: Alright. Yes? Dr. Jones, mic 4 please.

JONES: A question to Dr. Matthews for clarification. On the one hand, I'm hearing there are no financial implications to this. On the other hand, there's mentioned a \$5 million, but no mention of where the money might come from—but we are supporting this. Sounds to me like we're not quite clear what we're doing. Would you please clarify: Are there financial implications if we pass this?

MATTHEWS: There were no financial implications brought to us as a subcommittee. We did realize that in the body, in the text, that they were talking about \$5 million; but it was not before us—in terms of taking action—to recommend to this body \$5 million. We simply agreed to the development of a fund that could be used for what was being asked in those two initiatives.

JONES: Dr. Matthews, I'm still confused; and it may be—probably is because I am—it's late at night. But as I read it, your committee is recommending the support of the creation of a fund of \$5 million. Is that correct?

MATTHEWS: We're recommending support of the development of a fund because we realize that it has not happened yet. We do not have a budget before us. We simply had an amount, and so we did not feel comfortable in voting on this to recommend to you as dollars. And it did not come to us requesting dollars.

JONES: Bishop, in that case, I move referral of this to the General Board of Global Ministries.

#### *On Consent Calendar*

BISHOP KAMMERER: Just a moment please. We want to confer with Dr. Matthews up here because this item, Petition 295, is already on the consent calendar. We need to be clear about where it is right now, and if in

fact it has already gone to—for referral—for somewhere. So just a moment please.

(pause)

Alright, the clarification up here is that it affirms the request, but it does not include the voting of the \$5 million. It is on the consent calendar with no financial implications. So that is where it has been ordered, and that is what we are dealing with. We are not talking about the \$5 million amount apparently. And so you hold with your committee's recommendation. Is that clear?

MATTHEWS: Yes, Bishop.

BISHOP KAMMERER: Yes. Alright. Yes sir, on mic 3.

J. ERIC MCKINNEY (Central Texas): Eric McKinney, Central Texas Annual Conference. Bishop, am I not right in thinking that what we were dealing with tonight were items that had financial implications in them?

BISHOP KAMMERER: This had been removed earlier. They had to bring it back to clear their agenda.

MCKINNEY: I understand, but we're under a deadline to get things to CFA; and I thought the chair had said we would deal with things that had financial implications.

BISHOP KAMMERER: Alright. In the back, do you have a question? Mic 8.

LOUISE R. OTT (Detroit): Louise Ott, Detroit. On p. 1936 of our *DCA*, at the very bottom, it says, "Holistic Strategy, \$1,320,000 not already requested from GCFA." How does this relate to what is before us?

MATTHEWS: Bishop, that was the first petition that we acted on dealing with Holistic Strategy for Africa and Latin America and the Caribbean. That was a total different petition. The purpose of those funds is for administration only. Those funds will be used by the General Board of Global Ministries for the administration of the holistic initiatives.

BISHOP KAMMERER: Alright. Petition 295 is before us. Yes? Mic 2.

GREGORY D. STOVER (West Ohio): Greg Stover, West Ohio Conference. Point of order. Did we not have a motion of reference before us from Dr. Jones? A referral, a motion of referral?

BISHOP KAMMERER: We did. I did grant him the privilege of making the motion. I believe it was seconded; however, with the clarity, it was moot because of the ruling of the secretarial committee about where it was on the consent calendar. I'm sorry I did not make that clear to the body.

STOVER: So we're not—but are we voting on this now?

BISHOP KAMMERER: We are considering Petition 295 and the recommendation of the committee, correct—without financial implications. Petition 295.

Alright, yes, back here, mic. 7.

JOSEPH TOM PRICE (Baltimore-Washington): Thank you, Bishop. Tom Price, lay, Baltimore-Washington Conference. We dealt with this as a subcommittee that was called "Missional Priorities." We felt very strongly, and I personally spoke that it is a missional priority of the church to reach out and to provide ministries to those that need it the most. My only concern was that we weren't going to give more than—than this. And I know that we're tired. And I know that we're concerned about dollars and cents. And I'm probably crazy, but I work with youth—and so I think it's a given that I'm crazy. But I'm crazy enough to think that God will provide, and the dollars are not attached. But we are putting it out there in faith because this is a missional priority of this church. Thank you.

BISHOP KAMMERER: Alright. That's a speech for the committee's recommendation. Alright, are we ready to vote? Yes, Paul, mic 4.

EXTRUM-FERNANDEZ: Paul Extrum-Fernandez, California-Nevada. Just a point of information. I believe on May 3rd we adopted a consent calendar item—when was it pulled off the con-

sent calendar? On my notes I did not mark it as being pulled by the committee or by someone else. Does somebody...?

BISHOP KAMMERER: Can we get that information?

EXTRUM-FERNANDEZ: I had been informed by secretarial staff that it was actually adopted in our consent calendar.

BISHOP KAMMERER: Alright. I'm going to turn to Dr. Matthews because we have further conversation between him and the committee and the secretarial staff. Please tell us where we are and what we do not need to do right now.

MATTHEWS: Bishop, it's our understanding that it was not pulled from the consent calendar, that the body did act upon it—concur. And that completes our report because there is nothing before us.

BISHOP KAMMERER: Our apologies to you. It's already been acted on the consent calendar. This discussion has now ended. Dr. Tomlinson.

TOMLINSON: OK. Elaine Stanovsky has two petitions to come from the government subcommittee.

BISHOP KAMMERER: Elaine.

ELAINE J. W. STANOVSKY (Pacific Northwest): Elaine Stanovsky, Pacific Northwest, clergy. I would direct your attention to page, in the *DCA*, p. 1752, 1752, Calendar Item 1066, 1066, Petition No. 41597; found in the *ADCA* on p. 878. This is regarding the report of the Cooperative Parish Ministries Committee. The committee recommends it to you unanimously as amended. But we need to make a correction in what's in your *DCA* because it's reported within an asterisk. And, after thorough research, we believe that asterisk is in error.

In an earlier form, the recommendation was that this report be distributed in print form, which would have cost associated with it. The committee amended the report to make the distribution via e-mail; and while there will be some translation required, we are

assured that there are volunteers and existing staff that can manage the translation without additional cost, so if you would eliminate the asterisk. We recommend concurrence.

BISHOP KAMMERER: Alright now, I'm detecting the body wants to be clear. Are you stating there are no financial implications?

STANOVSKY: There are no financial implications.

BISHOP KAMMERER: And you want to clear this? Alright, Petition No. 1066. The committee votes concurrence. Please vote now. [*Yes, 810; No, 34; Abstain, 2*] You have sustained the committee.

Next item please.

STANOVSKY: Bishop, the other item I have is a constitutional amendment. It doesn't have financial implications with it. Do you want to take it now? Or, do you want to wait?

BISHOP KAMMERER: Let's wait please. We'll do that tomorrow. Alright, anything further from General Administration tonight?

TOMLINSON: Bishop, we have another petition, but it has a minority report with it. And we would ask that perhaps that be done tomorrow.

BISHOP KAMMERER: Sounds like a good idea. Thank you. Alright, Discipleship—Jeff Greenway and others.

#### *Leadership Training*

JEFFREY E. GREENWAY (Western Pennsylvania): Bishop Kammerer and delegates to the General Conference, we have one item for your consideration, and it will be presented by Asa Whitaker, co-chair of the legislative subcommittee on lay ministry.

ASA L. WHITAKER (Arkansas): Bishop and fellow delegates, if you would turn, please, to 1748 in your *DCA*, p. 1748, Calendar Item 1030, entitled "Accessible and Affordable Leadership Training;" you will find the petition on your *ADCA* on p. 493, p. 493, it is Petition No. 41071. The petition addresses the need to develop distance learning to train lay and clergy

leadership in ways that are affordable and accessible in town and country settings. As you can see, it is marked to have funding consequences. However, we have taken care of that funding, or this body has, by a previously approved budget for Town and Country Ministries on which we concurred and referred to GCFA when we dealt with Calendar 142. So, because of that, we would recommend concurrence as amended. Again, the funding has been previously approved by this body and referred to GCFA.

BISHOP KAMMERER: Alright, Petition 1030 is before you. The committee recommends concurrence as amended in the printing here. Please vote now. [*Yes, 831; No, 31; Abstain, 6*]

You have sustained the committee's recommendation.

WHITAKER: Thank you, Bishop.

BISHOP KAMMERER: Does that conclude all of your work—just tonight? Thank you, Jeff. The Financial Administration, Tracy Merrick, Chair.

#### *Financial Administration Items*

TRACY R. MERRICK (Western Pennsylvania): Bishop, we'll try to deal with three very quick items, if we can get through them. Penney Schwab, vice-chair of the committee is going to present the first two.

BISHOP KAMMERER: Alright, let's give Penney our attention.

PENNEY SCHWAB (Kansas West): Bishop and delegates, the first item is found in the *DCA* p. 1749; it is Calendar Item 1045; in the *ADCA* p. 698, Petition No. 40410. The name of the petition is "Free Access to *Discipline and Resolutions*." The committee voted non-concurrence.

The rationale briefly was this: Parts of both are already available. The publishing house, or the committee, has already decided to take the initiative to make the *Book of Resolutions* be online free for the next quadrennium. That will give them a quadrennium of experience to determine the cost of prepar-

ing and maintaining an online version. The second rationale for voting non-concurrence is that there could be a substantial financial negative impact if these were made free without this study. Therefore, we recommend non-concurrence.

BISHOP KAMMERER: Petition 1045, committee recommendation: non-concurrence. Please vote now. [*Yes, 790; No, 69; Abstain, 4*] You have sustained the committee's recommendation. Next.

SCHWAB: The second item is found in the *DCA*, P. 1750, Calendar Item 1048; Advance *DCA* p. 766, Petition No. 41295. The name of this petition is "To Establish a Denominational Task Force." The committee recommends non-concurrence. Most of this study, or parts of this study, have already been done in the last quadrennium as part of the Connectional Ministries Funding Patterns Task Force. And we, as a committee, also received no financial information as to the cost, the number of members, or anything else. Therefore, we recommend non-concurrence.

BISHOP KAMMERER: Petition No. 1048, recommendation: non-concurrence. Please vote now. [*Yes, 839; No, 26; Abstain, 3*]

Alright you have sustained the committee's recommendation. Next.

MERRICK: Bishop, our third and last item for this visit will be presented by Myron McCoy, secretary of the legislative committee.

BISHOP KAMMERER: Dr. McCoy.

MYRON F. MCCOY (Northern Illinois): I invite your attention to *DCA* p. 1750, Calendar Item 1046, Petition No. 41001; Advanced *DCA* 698. It's regarding general agency investments and endowment funds. The committee recommends non-concurrence as no endowment monies are asked to be used for the budgeting of this new quadrennium, and agencies already have the possibility of raising endowments through their respective agencies.

BISHOP KAMMERER: Petition 1046 the committee recommends non-

concurrence. Please vote now. [*Yes, 845; No, 23; Abstain, 3*]

MERRICK: Thank you bishop that concludes our work for this visit. Thank you.

BISHOP KAMMERER: Alright you have sustained the committee's recommendation. Now friends let's just hold in place for a few minutes. The good news is you will not consider any more petitions this evening. Our brains are tired, so are our bodies; however, I do want to call on Committee on Calendar and Agenda, we'll hear from them. Committee on Presiding Officers, we will turn to our conference secretary for announcements. And following that, we will be led in a dismissal prayer by Bishop Woodie White. Calendar and Agenda, when Mary Alice gets up here. Thank you.

Let me express my deep appreciation to my two colleagues who have sat with me and been so helpful this evening and to all of you for your wonderful patience and help as we've moved through the calendar items.

*(applause)*

MASSEY (Florida): And to you, Bishop. It's been a long day, and tomorrow we're going to take a vacation—I wish! Tomorrow we will start with our usual worship service, and then we will continue on with the financial items that we have left. I believe there are just two or three left to go, and we hope to have that done in time for the GCFA to meet and get their work done. In the afternoon, we will take other conference business. We have many, many petitions to move through, and so our day will also be very busy tomorrow. I will see you in the morning.

BISHOP KAMMERER: Alright, thank you. And Committee on Presiding Officers...

EXTRUM-FERNANDEZ: Good evening. Presiding tomorrow morning from the Arkansas Area, Bishop Janice Huie; in the afternoon session from the Iowa Area, Bishop Gregory Palmer; and finally in the evening from the New York Area, Bishop Ernest Lyght.

BISHOP KAMMERER: Thank you very much. Announcements please.

CAROLYN M. MARSHALL: Just one. There will not be a 7:00 A.M. GCFA meeting. Instead, it will be held immediately following the morning session. And this has become kind of a lost and found up here. I do have a case for a Palm Pilot™ if someone wants it, needs it, belongs to it—whatever.

BISHOP KAMMERER: You might have to identify that first. Alright.

### Thursday Morning, May 6, 2004

*(morning worship)*

BISHOP JANICE RIGGLE HUIE (Arkansas Area): Thank you, Bishop Fannin, and thank you choir. Now, dear friends, we're called to order. And as you know in your hearts from our previous times together, we have a great deal to do. One of the hymns that I learned growing up that my father used to sing at home sometimes was called, "Work, for the Night Is Coming." We might paraphrase that here to say something like "Work, for the End of General Conference Is Coming." And to that end, let me call on the Calendar—Committee on Agenda and Calendar to help us get a sense of what our day is like today.

MARY ALICE MASSEY (Florida): Council of Bishops and delegates, after a good night's sleep, we will move on to our order of business this morning. We will continue our work on the matters that have financial implications, and we hope to complete those this morning. In the afternoon, we will have the multicultural petition, and then we will move to the pension plan. And after that, we will take up all the items, all the petitions, that have minority reports. Should we get through all of that, we will go to the committee reports.

At some point today you will be asked to—we will have an offering for the marshals and the pages, and that will be announced a little bit later.

To expedite business, we have placed the pension plan first in the afternoon because it... and then, right after, the financial matters—should we get to the financial matters—all this morning. Also to expedite business and to clear up, perhaps, a misunderstanding, I move—I make this following motion: that those petitions, which had ten or fewer dissenting votes but were removed from the consent calendar, be returned to the consent calendar. This comes as a recommendation from the committee and needs no second.

BISHOP HUIE: Is there discussion? Are you ready to vote? You've heard the recommendation from the Calendar and Agenda Committee. Are you ready to vote? Please vote now. [*Yes, 703; No, 95; Abstain, 2*]

Alright, thank you. You have sustained the committee on this item, regarding the consent calendar.

MASSEY: We'll move on to the consent calendar now, Bishop.

BISHOP HUIE: Alright, thank you.

L. FITZGERALD REIST: If I may have your indulgence for just a moment. We met this morning—we finished meeting at about 8:30—and my pages are not yet all in order. Could we go to the—where we are in terms of process and if the... there we go.

You see the petition completion chart? You notice we got a lot of white, but we still have a lot of green. Next slide, please. Ten minority reports outstanding; 42 finance-related items, which we must get completed in order for GCFA to deal with them; 21 items without two-thirds support in legislative committee; 5 recommended constitutional amendments. Next slide, please. Twenty-five removed by delegates from consent calendars. We're putting them back; and I will not have that complete list to present to you, but I will ask you to look at that as you go through the process. 73 items not qualified for the consent calendar. What do we have left? 176 calendar items to deal with between today and tomorrow.

Because of the action we have just