

Resolution to Amend Operating Guidelines to Adopt a Non-Delegate Conference Format

November 2023

Submitted by the Mission Center Leadership Team

WHEREAS, the Greater Pacific Northwest USA Mission Center was created in 2003 by combining eight (8) existing jurisdictions covering Oregon, Alaska and Washington; and

WHEREAS, the originally-adopted Guidelines and Operating Procedures for the Mission Center provided for a Delegate Conference, meaning each congregation within the newly formed Mission Center was allotted a certain number of delegates (according to formula still in existence) to attend and have voting privileges at the annual Mission Center Conferences beginning in 2004; and

WHEREAS, only elected Delegates to mission center conferences are currently permitted to vote on legislation and must attend conferences in person in order to do so;

WHEREAS, the Community of Christ Bylaws permit mission centers to choose whether their conferences will be open to all members in good standing or to provide for delegate conferences; and

WHEREAS, current technology provides methods for members to attend conferences virtually and use electronic devices for voting, thereby eliminating the requirement to be physically present in order to vote; now therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the mission center's Operating Procedures be amended to provide for non-delegate mission center conferences as follows:

VII Mission Center Conferences

A. Representation:

All members in good standing within the mission center are eligible to be members of the mission center conference. Upon approval by the Western Field Apostle, mission center conferences will be non-

delegate meetings in which members will be allowed to participate and vote either in person or by virtual or other electronic means.

Only members of the Greater Pacific Northwest USA Mission Center may deliberate and vote in mission center conferences, except under one of the following circumstances:

- (1) A member in good standing in Community of Christ who has changed their place of residency but whose membership record transfer has not yet been processed into the GPNW USA Mission Center may be given the right of voice and vote by action of the assembly.
- (2) The privilege of voice, but not vote, in the conference's deliberations also may be extended as a courtesy to non-members who have special information or interest in the issue. Giving such a privilege is up to the assembly.

And be it further

RESOLVED, that this Resolution shall take effect January 1, 2024.