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Republic of Liberia  
Montserrado County



Cell: +231-886 528084 / 0880312359 / 0776030897 / 0555448403 / 0776387484 / 0778624259

Office of the Notary Public  
Monrovia, Liberia

**NOTARY CERTIFICATE**

Personally Appeared before me in my Office within the City of Monrovia, Montserrado County, REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA, this 18<sup>TH</sup> day of FEBRUARY 2025 duly qualified and commissioned Notary Public of and in the county of Montserrado and in the Republic aforesaid the Parties to the attached DOCUMENTS

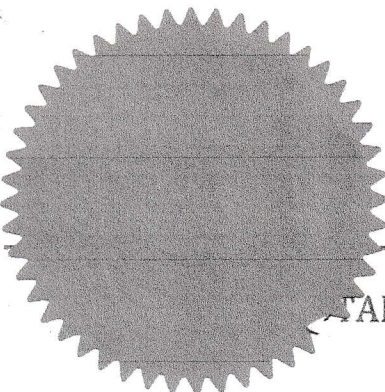
LIBERIA ANNUAL CONFERENCE, THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
COMMITTEE ON GENERAL RESOLUTIONS  
GENERAL RESOLUTION TO THE 192<sup>ND</sup> SESSION OF THE LIBERIA ANNUAL  
CONFERENCE, THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Did In My Presence And In The Presence Of Each Other Execute And Sign Their Genuine Signature(S) On The Said Instrument(S) To Person(S) They Represent And That The Same Was Made In My Presence And Declared By Each Of Them To Be Their Own Handwriting(S).

Therefore, I, S. PETER DOE-KPAR Notary Public Aforesaid Have Attached My Official Signature And Notary Seal To Avail When And Where Necessary.

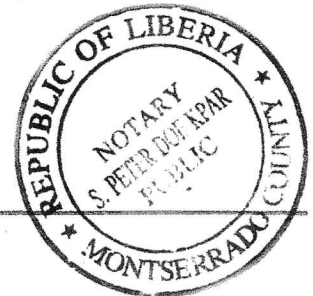
I Have Affixed My Genuine Signature Attesting  
To This Transaction By The Power Vested In Me  
This 18<sup>TH</sup> day of FEBRUARY 2025

SEAL:



*S. Peter Doe-Kpar*  
S. PETER DOE-KPAR

NOTARY PUBLIC, MONTSERRADO COUNTY, R. L.







LIBERIA ANNUAL CONFERENCE, THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

COMMITTEE ON GENERAL RESOLUTIONS

GENERAL RESOLUTIONS TO THE 192<sup>nd</sup> SESSION OF THE LIBERIA ANNUAL CONFERENCE, THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

WE, THE CLERGY AND LAY MEMBERS ACCREDITED TO THE 192<sup>nd</sup> ANNUAL SESSION OF THE LIBERIA ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, CONVENING WITH THE ST. JOHN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH AS VENUE, GBARNGA CITY, BONG COUNTY, UNDER THE THEME AND TEXT "AND KNOW THAT I AM GOD" PSALM 46:1-11, HAVING READ AND ASSESSED VARIOUS REPORTS SUBMITTED BY ALL REPORTING OFFICERS, AND PETITIONS DO HEREBY ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 192/016/LAC/UMC/GBARNGA CITY, BONG COUNTY; FEBRUARY 16, 2025, AS FOLLOW TO WIT:

**Resolution A: Subject: Reaffirmation of the Definition of Marriage in Compliance with Biblical Standards, National Laws, Customs and traditions.**

**WHEREAS**, paragraph 604.1 of *the Discipline* grants the LAC-UMC the authority to adopt rules, resolutions and regulations not in conflict with *the United Methodist Church Book of Discipline 2020/2024, National Laws, Customs and Traditions* for its governance;

Whereas, the Liberia Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church, convening at its 192<sup>nd</sup> Annual Session held with the Gbarnga District Conference from February 10-16, 2025, recognizes the General Conference (GC), the West Africa Central Conference (WACC) and the Annual Conference (AC) as the governing bodies authorized to adopt Regulations, Petitions and Resolution for the smooth operation of the United Methodist Church worldwide;

Whereas, the West Africa Central Conference has approved the following amendment to *The Book of Discipline*, 2020/2024 in accordance with paragraph 544, by adding subparagraph 5 & 7, which states that the WACC and its member Episcopal Areas and Annual Conferences shall adhere to Biblical standards, national, state, and local laws concerning [LGBTQI + or same-sex] marriage matters, and affirms that, for United Methodists in West Africa, marriage shall be a union between a man and a woman with the issuance of a marriage certificate by the State;

Whereas, the Liberia Annual Conference, consistent with the WACC resolution and the amendment to paragraph 544, reaffirms its historical commitment, as evidenced by resolutions adopted at its 187<sup>th</sup> through 192<sup>nd</sup> Annual Sessions, to uphold the traditional biblical principle of marriage as a union between a man and a woman, in alignment with Biblical standards, Liberia's cultural values, traditions, and civil marriage laws;

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,**

1. That the Liberia Annual Conference, at its 192<sup>nd</sup> Annual Session, formally adopts the amendment to *The Book of Discipline*, paragraph 544, subparagraph 5 & 7, as approved by the West Africa Central Conference which convened in Ghana December 5-8, 2024, affirming that marriage within the United Methodist Church in the West Africa Central Conference is defined as a union between a man and a woman, consistent with Biblical standards, applicable to the National laws, traditions, and customs of Annual Conference within the Central Conference;



Handwritten initials "RAK" and a signature.

Handwritten signature.



2. That the Liberia Annual Conference directs all member churches and affiliated bodies to implement this resolution in accordance with the principles set forth herein and to ensure compliance with Liberian laws, while maintaining the biblical and doctrinal teachings of the United Methodist Church.
3. That in line with its traditional stance, and in line with its adherence to **Biblical Standard, Scriptures, the Holy Bible and the laws and customs of Liberia**, the Liberia Annual Conference will not conduct any weddings of homosexuals or ordinations of self-avowed, practicing homosexuals. The United Methodist Church is traditional in its interpretation of the Holy Scripture – The Scripture that contain both the Old and New Testament, and will continue its evangelistic outreach to all persons who live in darkness and do not know the redemptive grace of our Lord, Jesus Christ.
4. That the Liberia Annual Conference shall maintain the name “United Methodist Church”, the “Cross” and “Flame” as trademarks already registered internationally and under the laws of the Republic of Liberia.
5. That the name “United Methodist” for us in Africa has indelible history and legacy, and has become an attractive, redemptive and Christian Service oriented name holistically throughout the continental connection of the UMC.
6. That the insignia of the UMC (Cross & Flame) bears great spiritual impact on our evangelism, mission, witness and service throughout Africa and the world.
7. That our emblem of a cross and a dual flame reminds us of who we are in Jesus Christ; how we are connected to God through Christ (the Cross), and the holy Spirit (the flame). That the flame also reminds us of the birth of the Christian church on the Day of Pentecost (Acts 2:3), and of the historic conversion experience and transformation of our founder, John Wesley on Aldersgate Street in London, England; on 24<sup>th</sup> May 1738 when he felt his “heart strangely warmed”.

**Resolution B: Subject: Empowering the Board of Trustees to Codify, Document, and Recover all Church Properties**

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Trustees of the Liberia Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church, LAC/UMC, as the fiduciary body responsible for safeguarding all church properties, recognizes its obligations under the trust clause as outlined in Chapter six (6), Section I, Paragraph 2501 of *The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church*(2020/2024), which states that church properties are held in trust for the benefit of The United Methodist Church;

**WHEREAS**, at the 190<sup>th</sup> Annual Session of the LAC/UMC, held in Gbarnga City, Bong County, from February 12-18, 2023, Resolution No. 014/LAC/UMC mandated the Council on Finance and Administration (CCF&A) and the Board of Trustees to allocate resources for investigative land surveys and legal services to protect and recover all church properties, as documented on page 43 of the Pre-Conference Journal/Book of the 191<sup>st</sup> Annual Session;

**WHEREAS**, the church is committed to rigorously protecting its properties throughout the Republic of Liberia, lying and situated within the 20 Districts, and 2 Circuits of the church or the 15 counties in Liberia and elsewhere in the world, and empowers and authorizes the Board of Trustees to indiscriminately, promptly and decisively initiate legal actions against any and all acts of encroachment, conversion, theft, trespass, criminal trespass, and other

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unlawful contacts therewith, in the past, now, in the future and perpetually, in order to safeguard all the assets and interests of the United Methodist Church in Liberia;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,**

1. That the Liberia Annual Conference, at its 192<sup>nd</sup> Annual Session, hereby authorizes the Board of Trustees, represented by its Executive Committee, specifically Mr. Henry N. Brunson, President/Chairperson, and Mrs. Eliza D.J. Kronyanh, Secretary/Directress, and/or their assigns and or successors to set aside special funds to be subsequently audited, and to take all necessary legal actions, including but not limited to litigation, to codify, document, secure, and recover all real and personal properties held in trust for the Liberia Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church.
2. Be it further resolved that the Board of Trustees is empowered to act in close consultation with the Office of the Chancellors and other relevant entities to ensure the full protection, recovery, possession, or repossession where applicable, of church properties in accordance with the trust clause and the governing laws of Liberia

**Resolution C: Subject: Disassociation of The Women in Attendance at the 192<sup>nd</sup> Annual Session of the LAC/UMC from a letter from Mother Muriel V. Nelson, President, and Mother Ophelia Kennedy, Secretary That Does Not Reflect the Mindset, Aspirations, Nor Decisions of a Significant Number of United Methodist Women.**

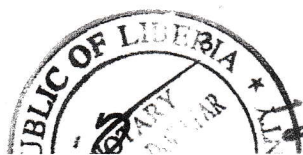
**WHEREAS, the Liberia Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church (LAC-UMC), convening at its 192<sup>nd</sup> Annual Session, is the highest decision making and policy body of The United Methodist Church in the Liberia Episcopal Area;**

**WHEREAS, Paragraph 602.4 of the 2020/2024 *Book of Discipline (the Discipline)* outlines the compositions of the lay membership of the annual conference, which includes *inter alia*, the Conference President of United Methodist Women, the Conference President of United Methodist Men, the Conference Lay Leader, District Lay Leaders, the President of the Conference Young Adult Organization, the President of the Conference Youth Fellowship, etc.;**

**WHEREAS, the General Conference ended disaffiliation on December 31, 2023 but has approved re-affiliation and further requires annual conferences to establish a re-affiliation policy for churches and individuals seeking to return to the denomination;**

**WHEREAS, on February 11, 2025, Dr. Muriel V. Nelson, President of the Conference United Methodist Women approved, thereby endorsing a letter signed by Ophelia J.S. Kennedy, Secretary of the Conference United Methodist Women, which made serious allegations against Bishop Samuel J. Quire, Jr., accusing him of violating *the Discipline* among other assertions;**

**WHEREAS, in alignment with the General Conference's unanimous vote on April 23, 2024, all petitions from individuals, churches, and conferences no longer associated with The United Methodist Church are disqualified; and as such, this 192<sup>nd</sup> annual session shall also disqualify any member(s) who work against and undermine the interests of the LAC-UMC;**



BAR



WHEREAS, the Africa College of Bishops September 5, 2024 statement condemns those who are working for the Global Methodist Church while claiming to be members of The United Methodist Church, as this constitutes disloyalty;

WHEREAS, Paragraph 604.4 of *the Discipline* grants the annual conference the authority to hear complaints against clergy and to try, reprove, suspend, deprive of clergy office and credential, expel, or acquit any against whom charges have been preferred;

WHEREAS, pursuant to Paragraph 2702.4 of *the Discipline*, a lay person may be charged with various offenses, including but not limited to disobedience to the order and discipline of the United Methodist Church; and dissemination of doctrines contrary to the established standards of the doctrine of The United Methodist Church.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**

1. That this 192<sup>nd</sup> Annual Session of the LAC-UMC condemns those who are working for or advancing the interests of other Denominations while claiming to be member(s) of The United Methodist Church, and we urge such individual(s) to withdraw from The United Methodist Church and call upon them to depart peacefully and respectfully, as our polity does not permit a person to be a member of two denominations.
2. That this 192<sup>nd</sup> Annual Session of the LAC-UMC authorizes a thorough investigation of Mother Dr. Muriel V. Nelson, President of the Conference Women Organization, and Mother Ophelia J.S. Kennedy, Conference Women Secretary, during which period they shall be temporarily suspended.
3. That if warranted by the findings of the investigation, Mother Muriel V. Nelson and Mother Ophelia J.S. Kennedy be subjected to face the full consequence of punishment pursuant to *the Discipline* for acts of disloyalty, gross insubordination, undermining the Bishop and The United Methodist Church, and undermining the Board of Laity.
4. That Mother Muriel V. Nelson and Mother Ophelia J.S. Kennedy, if found wanting from the outcome of the investigation, be designated Anti-The United Methodist Church.
5. That during the suspension period of Mother Muriel V. Nelson, and Mother Ophelia J.S. Kennedy, the next in line officers of the Women organization carry on the affairs of the organization.
6. That Bishop Samuel J. Quire, Jr. exercises his Disciplinary authority to appoint a new Directress of Women Work within the LAC-UMC.
7. That the succeeding leaders shall collaborate with all District Women Presidents to organize new elections for the Conference United Methodist Women Organization at the most appropriate time considering the outcome of the consultations with the District Women Presidents.
8. That local United Methodist Church Councils and Districts establish procedures to facilitate the re-affiliation process for members seeking to return to The United Methodist Church and provide nurturing and counseling services for them.
9. That a Study Committee be constituted and chair by Sis. Bernice T. Dahn, Council Chairperson of the Martha Tubman United Methodist Church, LAC/UMC with additional members to be appointed by the Chair to study the effect of the Worldwide Regionalization petition and report their findings to the 193<sup>rd</sup> annual





session of the Liberia Annual Conference, the United Methodist Church, in order to inform the decision of the LAC/UMC Delegation regarding the planned Leadership submission scheduled by the Council of Bishops of the General Conference.


Done in the City of Gbarnga, Bong County, Republic of Liberia, this Sixteenth Day of February, A.D. Two Thousand Twenty-Five.


The General Resolution Committee


- |                                 |                |
|---------------------------------|----------------|
| 1. Bro. Joseph Jlorpleh Swen    | Chairperson    |
| 2. Bro. Samuel K. Sagbeh        | Co-Chairperson |
| 3. Bro. Joe Malleh              | Secretary      |
| 4. Bro. J. Jarkplor Swen        | Member         |
| 5. Sis. Juliet O. Jonah         | Member         |
| 6. Bro. Richard G. Wiah         | Member         |
| 7. Bro. Harrison K. Tarpeh      | Member         |
| 8. Bro. Ekeema Witherspoon      | Member         |
| 9. Rev. Barcon Borbor           | Member         |
| 10. Youth Representative        | Member         |
| 11. Mt. Dr. Elizabeth K. Harris | Consultant     |
| 12. Bro. Cllr. Powo C. Hilton   | Consultant     |

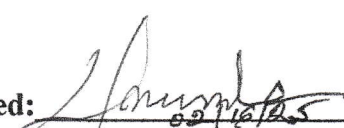
Signed:  Feb. 16, 2025  
Bro. Joseph Jlorpleh Swen  
Chairperson

Signed:   
Rev. Benjamin F. Korpelleh  
Conference Secretary

Approved:   
Bishop Samuel Jerome Quire, Jr.  
Resident Bishop, Liberia Episcopal Area

Attested:   
Cllr. Dr. Tolbert G. Nyenswah, ESQ  
Conference Lay Leader

Attested:   
Cllr. Samuel T. Zonoe, ESQ  
Conference Chancellor

Attested:  02/16/25  
Bro. Edmund F. Forh  
President  
Conference Council on Finance  
Administration

