

Report of the Committee on Standing Rules

STANDING RULE 19:

It shall be an Order of the Day during on the first full day of Annual Conference: ~~that~~

- a. The floor shall be opened for additional nominations to all boards, councils, commissions and committees to which the Committee on Nominations and parent boards are prepared to make nominations.
- b. **It shall be reported to the body the full number of baptisms and professions of faith in the South Carolina Conference of The United Methodist Church during the preceding calendar year, or the most recent year with available data.**

Rationale: The purpose of the Church is to make disciples of Jesus Christ. This would allow the body to keep the metrics in front of us on the first full day of Annual Conference. This would also allow for the most current data to be used in cases where the previous conference year statistics might not yet be available.

STANDING RULE 51:

There shall be a Board of Trustees of South Carolina United Methodist Camps and Retreat Ministries, Inc., an inclusive body consisting of eighteen (18) members. It is recommended that nine (9) shall be lay persons of whom at least four (4) shall be women; and nine (9) shall be clergy, of whom at least two (2) shall be women.

- a. Trustees shall be nominated by the **Discipleship Ministries Area of Connectional Ministries** ~~Board of Education~~ and elected by the South Carolina Annual Conference for four (4) year terms. Nominees shall be submitted to the Conference Secretary and the Office of Connectional Ministries by February 1. **Names of prospective trustees shall be submitted by the Board of Trustees of South Carolina United Methodist Camps and Retreat Ministries, Inc., to the Discipleship Ministries Area of Connectional Ministries.** Ex-officio members of the Board, without vote, shall be the Directors/Managers of Camps and Retreats facilities and a Connectional Ministries staff member assigned by the Director of Connectional Ministries. The Board shall be divided into four (4) classes. The **Discipleship Ministries Area of Connectional Ministries** ~~Board of Education~~ of the South Carolina Annual Conference may fill vacancies in the Board after prior consultation with the Board of Camps and Retreat Ministries. ~~Trustees shall be eligible for re-election to a maximum tenure of two (2) consecutive terms.~~ After a full tenure of service, a former trustee shall be ineligible for re-election until a lapse of two (2) years. **The tenure of the Trustees shall be limited to two (2) consecutive terms.**
- b. The Board of Trustees shall report to the Annual Conference through the **Board of Education Discipleship Ministries Area of Connectional Ministries.**
- c. In accordance with the Book of Discipline, property held in trust by this Board of Trustees shall be subject to paragraphs 2516 and 2517 of the Book of Discipline.

Rationale for change: This gives Board of Trustees of South Carolina United Methodist Camps and Retreat Ministries, Inc., a voice in the nominating process, and is in keeping with their current by laws. The nomination wording is consistent with the nomination process and standing rules of other similar boards of trust related to the conference.

This change also brings the standing rule in line with the current structure of Connectional Ministries.

STANDING RULE 53:

The Board of Trustees at Claflin University will consist of no fewer than thirteen (13) members and no more than twenty-seven (27) members. Newly elected trustees serve for a term of three (3) years or **may be** elected to serve out a remaining term due to a vacancy on the Board.

- a. The Board shall elect three (3) of their members from the South Carolina United Methodist Conference (SCUMC) upon the expiration of a term in which its nominees were placed. Nominees shall be submitted to the Conference Secretary and the Office of Connectional Ministries by February 1. ~~The composition of the Board will include three (3) members (lay or clergy) from the South Carolina Annual Conference (SCUMC).~~ These representatives (lay or clergy) will be distributed in separate classes among the three classes and may be approved for election by the South Carolina Annual Conference (SCUMC) upon the expiration of each succeeding class. These three (3) persons will be proposed as candidates by the Claflin University Board of Trustees, vetted and approved by the Board of Higher Education and Campus Ministry, approved for election by the South Carolina Annual Conference (SCUMC), and elected by the Claflin University Board of Trustees. These elected trustees are eligible to serve four **consecutive** three-year terms on the Board ~~and an extended continuous term must be approved by two-thirds (2/3) vote of a quorum of the Board present and voting.~~

- b. A Board member who has served continuously with distinctive service for a period of twelve (12) years or more is eligible **after one year from departing the board** for consideration and election to the status of Trustee Emeritus. ~~A former board member elected to the position of Trustee Emeritus may attend meetings of the Board of Trustees as an ex-officio member without the power to vote at meeting and will not be counted to constitute a quorum of the board.~~ Claflin University will provide a report annually to the South Carolina Annual Conference.

Rationale: This request was submitted by the Claflin Governance Committee and simplifies the current standing rule by removing redundant language. It changes the election of Trustee Emeritus eligibility to require nominees to be at least one year removed from Board service.

STANDING RULE 65:

There shall be a Conference Committee on Congregational Development (**CCCD**) **or Conference Committee on Congregational Innovation and Strategy (CCIS)**, composed of six (6) at large members, nominated by the Annual Conference Committee on Nominations and elected by the Annual Conference; one representative from each District Board on Congregational Development **or District Board on Congregational Innovation and Strategy**; and one representative from each of the following: the Board of Global Ministries, ~~Board of Evangelism~~ Discipleship Area, ~~Board of Laity~~ Lay Leadership Area and the Commission on Equitable Compensation.

The purpose of the **CCCD** shall be to work **in a collaborative partnership** with the Bishop, ~~and the~~ Cabinet, **the Director of Congregational Excellence, and the Director of Congregational Innovation and Strategy** ~~to provide long term planning and provide the framework for all the efforts of the Annual Conference related to new church development, church redevelopment and congregational revitalization.~~ The Director of Innovation & Strategy would be a part-time clergy appointment for someone who is also serving a local church and has experience in church growth, renewal, new church starts and provides strategic planning and innovative frameworks for all the efforts of the Annual Conference related to new faith/church/missional development, church redevelopment and congregational revitalization. The Director of Innovation & Strategy will be the conference staff liaison to the Conference Board of Congregational Development, along with the Director of Congregational Excellence. The Director of Innovation & Strategy will be an ex-officio member without vote on Conference Committee on Congregational Development.

Rationale: This request was submitted by Reimagining Congregational Development Transition Team tasked with the responsibility of implementing the approved conference structural changes related to Connectional Ministries and Congregational Development at the 2025 Called Session of Annual Conference. This change brings the standing rule in line with the approved changes.