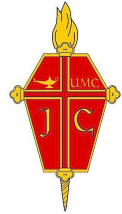




JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
 CONSEIL JUDICIAIRE DE L'ÉGLISE METHODISTE UNIE
 RECHTSHOF DER EVANGELISCH-METHODISTISCHEN KIRCHE
 CONSELHO JUDICIAL DA IGREJA METODISTA UNIDA
 CONSEJO DE LA JUDICATURA DE LA IGLESIA METODISTA UNIDA



Petition for Declaratory Decision

This form is to be used by the Secretary of the body authorized to petition the Judicial Council for a ruling in the nature of a declaratory decision as to the constitutionality, meaning, application, or effect of (please check one):

- The Book of Discipline 2016* or any portion thereof (§ 2610.1)
- any act or legislation of a General Conference (§ 2610.1)
- any proposed legislation (§ 2609.2)

Name of body authorized to make a Petition (§ 2610.2): _____

Date of session: _____ (month/day/year) Location: _____

Name of Secretary: _____

Address: _____ City: _____

State/Province: _____ ZIP/Postal Code _____ Country: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____ E-mail: _____

To be reviewed (indicate paragraph number, title of legislation and/or act where applicable):

Book of Discipline: _____

Legislation: _____

Act of General Conference: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Secretary of the Conference/Body

(month/day/year)

The following must be attached:

- Text of the written Petition for Declaratory Decision as originally presented
 - Minutes of proceedings (relevant portions only)
 - List of names and addresses of interested parties, including e-mail
 - Other relevant materials (e.g. conference rules, resolutions, policies, reports)
- Eight (8) hard copies must be submitted via USPS or other delivery service to:
 Secretary of the Judicial Council, 5556 N. Sheridan Road, #610, Chicago, IL 60640, USA
 - Electronic copies in both Word and PDF (with security features disabled) must be submitted to:
 secretaryjudicialcouncil@gmail.com

Text of the written Petition for Declaratory Decision as originally presented:

“As Paragraph 16, Article IV of the Constitution states: "General Conferences shall have full legislative power over all matters distinctively connectional" and in utilizing this constitutionally granted authority, prohibits the performance of these ceremonies in paragraph 341.6. In addition, as listed, the performing of these ceremonies is a chargeable offense as found in Paragraph 2702.1.b. Therefore, if the performing of these ceremonies is deemed to not be “distinctively connectional,” has the General Conference exceeded its Constitutionally granted power in prohibiting them?”

Minutes of proceedings (relevant portions only)

THIRD DAY - EVENING SESSION

Saturday, June 1, 2019

Motion: “My name is Ray McGee, Grosse Pointe UMC, clergy. Bishop, I request a Declaratory Decision on whether a ceremony celebrating a homosexual union and/or performing a same sex wedding are “distinctively connectional.”

“As paragraph 16, article IV states, “General Conference shall have full legislative power over all matters distinctively connectional” and in utilizing this constitutionally granted authority, prohibits the performance of these ceremonies in paragraph 341.6. In addition, as listed, the performing of these ceremonies is a chargeable offense as found in paragraph 2702.1.b. Therefore, if the performing of these ceremonies is deemed to not be “distinctively connectional”, has the General Conference exceeded its constitutionally granted power in prohibiting them?”

The motion received a second; Bishop entertained two speakers on whether the matter was in order, and held a vote on whether to send the Declaratory Decision (request) to the Judicial Council. **Motion adopted.**

Docket 0420-03

Interested Parties & Persons To Whom Notice Shall Be Given

Joy A. Barrett, Michigan Annual Conference Secretary
secretary@michiganumc.org

Rev. Ray McGee (maker of motion for declaratory decision)
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Bishop David Alan Bard (presiding bishop)
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