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(as of September 28, 2013)

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Note: *To save space in what follows only the "RESOLVED" statements from these resolution are listed, followed by a description of how the resolution was fulfilled or information about its status.*

**STATUS REPORT
RESOLUTIONS FROM THE 2010 SYNOD
RESOLUTIONS WITH ONGOING ACTIVITY**

Resolution #5 - Presbyterian Church USA Covenant Partnership

RESOLVED, That the 2010 Synod of the Moravian Church in America, Southern Province, enter into a relationship of covenant partnership with the Presbyterian Church USA by adopting *An Invitation to the Table: Moravian/Presbyterian Covenant Partnership*.

ACTION: The Presidents of the Northern and Southern Province PECs have worked with the PCUSA ecumenical officer on an "orderly exchange of clergy" document. Christian Educators from our Province continue to be involved in the Association of Presbyterian Church Educators, and we share our BCM Resource Center with Salem Presbytery in NC.

Resolution #6 - Episcopal Church Full Communion

Subject: Episcopal Church Full Communion

RESOLVED, That the 2010 Synod of the Moravian Church in America, Southern Province, enter into a relationship of full communion with The Episcopal Church by adopting *Finding Our Delight in the Lord: A Proposal for Full Communion Between The Episcopal Church; the Moravian Church-Northern Province; and the Moravian Church-Southern Province*.

ACTION: Ongoing implementation via the Moravian-Episcopal Coordinating Committee. The PEC appointed Wayne Burkette (Home) and Liz Leonard (King) as members of the Coordinating Committee, which met in January 2013 in Winston-Salem, and plans to meet on an annual basis. In 2012, Carl Southerland (formerly associate pastor at Home Moravian Church) was appointed by the Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Western NC to serve St. John's Episcopal Church, in Franklin, NC.

Resolution #22 - United Methodist Church Bilateral Dialogue

RESOLVED, That the Provincial Elders' Conference of the Moravian Church, Southern Province shall initiate a bilateral dialogue with The United Methodist Church within the next intersynodal period (2010 - 2014). This bilateral dialogue shall have the objective of negotiating a formal relationship of full communion as understood in the definition of full communion contained in the report of the Unity and Ecumenical Affairs Commission of the Southern Province submitted to the 2002 Synod (*Resolutions, Reports and Elections, Provincial Synod, April 17-21, 2002, p.17-18*).

ACTION: Ongoing implementation through the Methodist-Moravian Bilateral Dialogue Team. The PECs of the Northern and Southern Provinces jointly appointed three Moravians to the Dialogue Team: Gary Harke, Chris Giesler, and Lynnette Delbridge. Location and travel expenses were a consideration. While all reside in the Northern Province, Giesler and Delbridge have served in the Southern Province and the Dialogue team will conduct some meetings in our Province. The dialogue team met in March 2013, and again in September.

Resolution #34 - Strategic Direction for the Province

RESOLVED, That the Synod of 2010 acknowledges the value of the strategic planning process undertaken by the Covenant Partner Groups and expresses its appreciation for the efforts of the facilitators, recorders and all participants in this process; and,

RESOLVED, That the Synod of 2010 adopts the reports of the Covenant Partner Groups and forwards them to the Provincial Elders' Conference as a strategic vision to guide the Moravian Church in America, Southern Province, during the next intersynodal period.

ACTION: Ongoing implementation. PEC determined to emphasize two of the eight characteristics of healthy congregations each year during the inter-synodal period, created and shared basic information for churches to use, tasked the Board of Cooperative Ministries with developing and deploying resources in support of the eight characteristics, focused attention on the eight characteristics at the 2012 inter-synodal gathering, and included assessment of progress in the quadrennial review and annual report processes for congregations.

RESOLUTIONS NOT COMPLETED

Resolution #10 - Clergy Compensation and Benefits [Partial]

RESOLVED, That a Human Resource Administrative Manual be created and administered under the authority of the PEC.

ACTION: PEC tasked the PSSB and its Human Resources Compensation and Benefits Committee with creating a Human Resources Administrative Manual focused on the ordained ministry. It is on schedule to be approved by the PEC prior to the 2014 Synod and will become a Provincial Policy indexed in the revised Book of Order.

Resolution #19 - Provincial Book of Order Revision

RESOLVED, That the *Book of Order* of the Southern Province, Moravian Church in America, shall be revised and shall contain the following order and basic organization: *[listed]*

RESOLVED, That the following definitions shall apply in revising and maintaining the Book of Order and in conducting the work of the Province:

- Regulation. An order having the force of law and which is a binding custom or practice and which is issued by an authority under powers granted by its Constitution or delegated by legislation. Synods (Unity and Provincial) will be the only authorities having the power to issue regulations or to delegate by legislation the development and implementation of regulations.
- Rule. A prescribed or self-imposed guide for conduct or action. The Provincial Synod, as part of its legislation, may establish rule(s) as guides for conduct or action that apply to the entire Province. Individual entities within the Province may establish rule(s) that will apply only to the entity as a guide for internal conduct or action.
- Policy. A definite course of action selected from among alternatives in light of given conditions to guide and determine present and future decisions. Policies are set by Provincial entities based on the directions of Synod.

- Procedure. An established way of conducting business. A series of steps followed in a regular, orderly manner that are adopted for accomplishing something. Procedures are developed by Provincial entities. And,

RESOLVED, That the section, *Church Order of the Unitas Fratrum*, shall contain an exact copy as published after each Unity Synod, shall be used as the official reference and standard for Provincial action, ministry and mission, shall not be subject to Provincial Synod approval, and shall be updated at the conclusion of each Unity Synod by direction of the PEC; and,

RESOLVED, That the section, *Church Order of the Southern Province*, shall only contain the principles, standards, and regulations needed to carry out the ministry, mission and polity of the Southern Province, shall be subject to Provincial Synod approval, and shall be updated at the conclusion of each Provincial Synod by direction of the PEC; and,

RESOLVED, That as part of the revision of the *Church Order of the Southern Province*, the existing Constitution and Rules and Regulations of the Moravian Church in America, Southern Province, shall be combined into one document to be called Constitution of the Moravian Church in America, Southern Province; and,

RESOLVED, That revisions to the *Moravian Covenant for Christian Living* shall be subject to joint approval by the Northern and Southern Provinces; and,

RESOLVED, That policies and procedures necessary to carry out the ministry, mission and polity of the Southern Province as directed by the *Church Order of the Southern Province* shall not be included in the Provincial *Book of Order*, shall be developed (with appropriate PEC review and approval) by the provincial entity responsible for carrying out a requirement, and shall be indexed in the Provincial *Book of Order*; and,

RESOLVED, That the Provincial Elders' Conference shall coordinate the revision of the *Book of Order* and shall provide the revision for review and appropriate action at the Synod of 2014.

ACTION: PEC formed the Book of Order Revision Committee, initially chaired by Tim Byerly. Members: Wayne Burkette, Daniel Crews, Joe Moore, Graham Rights. A preliminary draft and accompanying materials were approved by the PEC in June 2013. A final draft was approved by the PEC in September. Resolutions to adopt a revised Constitution and the revised Book of Order will be presented for review and appropriate action at the Synod of 2014.

Resolution #24 - Homosexuality Study and Discernment

RESOLVED, That the 2010 Synod of the Southern Province reaffirm the resolution of the 2002 Unity Synod (RESOLUTION 885) "that the church should not make a hasty decision at this time, but urges the provinces towards further, in-depth examination of the subject of homosexuality and the church;" and,

RESOLVED, That the Southern Province begin a careful process of study and discernment regarding homosexuals in the church in preparation for the 2014 Synod; and,

RESOLVED, That PEC appoint a task force with a balanced representation of differing views to lead this process of study and discernment, that includes opportunity for members of the Southern Province to discuss this issue openly and honestly; and,

RESOLVED, That accurate information on homosexuality, Moravian doctrine, biblical interpretation and authority, and sexual ethics be provided to congregations; and,

RESOLVED, That this period of study and discussion be conducted according to the principles of conflict resolution already approved by PEC.

ACTION:

Background

The 2010 Synod passed a resolution calling our Province to *"begin a careful process of study and discernment regarding homosexuals in the church in preparation for the 2014 Synod."*

Synod asked the PEC to *"appoint a task force with a balanced representation of differing views to lead this process of study and discernment."* This group was to develop appropriate resources, and design and implement a process of dialogue, study and discernment.

Challenges

The PEC has been challenged to fulfill this decision of our Synod. For us, the word "careful" (used to describe the desired study and discernment process) has been a key consideration. We want this effort to truly be effective in moving us forward as a church in what is an important conversation.

We have been slowed by several factors, including: difficulty in securing the appropriate persons to serve as leaders; the wide scope of the resolution itself (a task force with diverse views represented, developing both resources and a process for study and discernment and leading that process); concerns about maintaining a covenant of confidentiality and mutual trust within the task group; polarization of views among the members of our congregations; previous attempts to discuss controversial social issues that have proved difficult; and the political climate and discourse in the state of North Carolina in 2011 and 2012 as a constitutional amendment defining marriage as solely between a man and a woman was considered, voted on and approved by the electorate (May 2012), and as the Supreme Court rendered its decision about the Defense of Marriage Act (July 2013).

Steps Forward

Resolution #24 asked, among other things, that accurate information on biblical interpretation and authority be provided to congregations. The Northern Province PEC accepted our invitation to jointly task the Interprovincial Faith and Order Commission to develop the document, "Guidelines of Biblical Interpretation", which was approved by both PECs in April of 2012.

We believe this is an important and helpful resource for the process outlined by Synod.

Recently, the PEC has decided that, prior to forming a task group and engaging the specific work detailed in Resolution #24, additional preparation would be helpful. We plan to conduct at least one "pilot" conversation about homosexuality in the church with a small group representing a cross-section of viewpoints using a model dialogue process and an outside facilitator. We intend to complete this step in time to report on its outcome to delegates to Synod and to the wider church.

2014 Synods and Meetings

The Unity Synod of 2002 placed "a moratorium on additional changes by the Provinces" with respect to homosexuality in the church. The Unity Board of 2010 resolved that, "the provinces of the Unity are asked to refrain from taking decisions and action on the issue until after the Unity Board meeting in 2014," and reiterated the decision of the 2002 Unity Synod that discussion of the issue was permitted, and in fact, needed.

Since the Unity Board does not meet until May 2014, our Synod in April will not be considering legislation that makes specific decisions or recommends particular actions or changes with respect to the issue of homosexuality in the church. However, we can make decisions about how we will continue work to fulfill the call by Unity Synod in 2002 and our own Synod in 2010 for dialogue, study and discernment.

To ensure that we move forward the PEC will be submitting the following resolution to the Synod of 2014:

Resolution: Study and Discernment Regarding Homosexuality

WHEREAS, the Unity Synod of 2002 and the Unity Board meeting of 2010 encouraged dialogue within the various provinces of our church about homosexuality in the church, and

WHEREAS, during the 2010-2014 inter-synodal period, the Provincial Elders' Conference has taken some steps, but has not fully implemented the call of the church expressed in 2010 Synod resolution #24: Homosexuality Study and Discernment; therefore be it

RESOLVED That, the Synod of 2014 reaffirms the spirit and intent of the 2010 Synod resolution #24, specifically: to provide leadership, resources and a process for a conversation about homosexuality in the church that includes diverse viewpoints, and opportunities for open and honest discussion, study and discernment; and

RESOLVED That, this process of dialogue and discernment should take into account similar efforts made, and decisions that have been or may be reached by our sister provinces within the Unity, as well as actions of the 2014 Unity Board and 2016 Unity Synod; and

RESOLVED That, the Provincial Elders' Conference is to fulfill what is stated in this resolution in a manner which it determines is best and prior to the Synod of 2018.

.RESOLUTIONS COMPLETED

Resolution #10 - Clergy Compensation and Benefits [Partial]

RESOLVED, That PEC be given the authority to make decisions with regard to all compensation and benefit matters such as minimum salary ranges, housing allowance, housing equity allowance, and all other group and supplemental plans after consultation with Provincial Support Services. This would begin with 2012 - 2014; and,

ACTION: PEC exercised the synod-given authority regarding compensation and benefits matters, including making adjustments in the salary scale for clergy for 2011-2014.

Resolution #14 - Cornerstone Campaign for New Churches

RESOLVED, That the Cornerstone Campaign be continued for the next inter-Synodal period (2010-2014); and,

RESOLVED, That the campaign be funded from our congregations at an annual level determined by the Provincial Elders' Conference; and,

RESOLVED, That the Cornerstone Campaign be considered a special Benevolent Capital and Outreach Program for the above stated period and thus excluded from the determination of the formula percentage for Provincial contributions; and,

RESOLVED, That the Provincial Elders' Conference choose a Sunday each year as a time to fully inform our congregations about this campaign, preparing and distributing materials for that purpose; and,

RESOLVED, That Church Board(s) of our congregations review and consider their participation in this program each year before preparing their annual budgets.

ACTION: The PEC determined in October 2011 to suspend this program for 2012, and subsequently decided to suspend it for the entire inter-synodal period.

Resolution #15 - LR Capital Campaign (Kitchen and Debt Reduction)

RESOLVED, That the Laurel Ridge Board of Directors, in consultation with the PEC and the Moravian Ministries Foundation be allowed to establish and execute a Capital Campaign with a goal of \$900,000 to fund the Summer Camp Kitchen renovations and reduce the Higgins Lodge debt; and;

RESOLVED, That the first monies collected will be used for the Summer Camp Kitchen to prevent any additional debt for the camp.

ACTION: PEC approved the overall plan for the campaign. The campaign was conducted by Laurel Ridge. As of September 20, 2013 pledges and gifts to the campaign totaled \$781,659.90, of which \$721,464.47 was collected, and \$60,195.43 was outstanding. The new summer camp kitchen construction costs were \$522,426.00, which have been completely paid. The remaining donations have been applied directly to the principal of the Higgins Lodge expansion debt.

Resolution #18 - Laurel Ridge - Limited Liability Corporation (LLC)**Subject: Laurel Ridge - Limited Liability Corporation (LLC)**

RESOLVED, That the Synod of 2010 authorizes the PEC to conduct a thorough assessment of the feasibility and desirability of forming a Laurel Ridge LLC; and,

RESOLVED, That the Synod of 2010 authorizes the PEC to implement the formation of a Laurel Ridge LLC if the PEC deems such to be advisable after consultation with legal and financial expertise.

ACTION: PEC tasked the PSSB with investigating this matter and making a recommendation. PSSB secured *pro bono* legal counsel and, after due consideration, recommended that a LLC not be formed and that financial risks and liabilities be managed through policies and procedures and increased insurance coverage.

Resolution #21 - Church Educators Serving Under Appointment**Subject: Church Educators Serving Under Appointment**

RESOLVED, That beginning in 2011 the Provincial Elders' Conference will work in consultation with local congregations currently employing church educators, full time or part time, to provide them provincial appointment in accordance with the guidelines in the provincial church educator manual currently approved by the PEC (October 2008); and,

RESOLVED, That PEC and local congregations will also work in consultation to see that church educators being employed by congregations in the future shall also be provided provincial appointment; and,

RESOLVED, That such provincial appointment shall be understood to provide empowerment and the blessing of the wider church, recognition of one's call and gifts for educational ministry, and mutual accountability for the educator, local congregation and the wider province.

RESOLVED, That the Provincial Elders' Conference, Board of Cooperative Ministries, and Moravian Association of Church Educators will continue to work together in the intersynodal period between 2010 and 2014 to encourage and affirm those called into the professional educational ministry of the church and to review the provincial church educator guidelines as well as the appointment process being provided under the new provincial structure.

ACTION: PEC appointed a Church Educators' Committee, reviewed and approved appointment procedures for DCEs, oversaw the updating of the Church Educators Manual, and commissioned a liturgy of installation for DCEs.

Resolution #26 - Delinquent Congregations

RESOLVED, That the elected delegates (as well as pastors) of the congregations of New Hope FL and Peace shall be entitled to have voice and vote during the Synod of 2010 through suspension of Paragraph 1550, Section 3. Representation at Synod of the Book of Order; and,

RESOLVED, That the amounts currently outstanding shall not be excused, but that in each case an understanding will be reached between the congregation's board(s) for the congregation to pay the outstanding amount owed to the Office of the Provincial Treasurer over a period of time; and,

RESOLVED, That the Provincial Elders' Conference shall be encouraged to utilize available provincial staff, agencies and commissions to address the health of these congregations through ministry assessment, renewal and redevelopment as may be deemed appropriate by the Provincial Elders' Conference.

ACTION: PEC worked with the church boards and pastors of New Hope (FL) and Peace as suggested in the resolution.

Resolution #28 - Provincial Share Allocation

RESOLVED, That the PEC in conjunction with the yet to be appointed Provincial Support Services Board, review, evaluate and develop a potentially new methodology for allocating the need for Provincial support from our churches; and,

RESOLVED, That any change be made after due consideration of the changes currently being considered by the PEC of the Moravian Church in America, Northern Province, in an effort to potentially unify the approach between the two Provinces; and,

RESOLVED, That if a change in the methodology for allocating the need for Provincial support is approved and implemented by the PEC within the next inter-synodal period, the current Book of Order, Section 1204, be suspended for the remaining portion of the inter-synodal period with a conforming amendment to the Book of Order that speaks to this new implemented methodology being proposed at the 2014 Synod.

ACTION: PEC tasked the PSSB and its Finance Committee with researching and developing a potentially new methodology. PSSB received, approved and recommended to PEC a report and proposal from the Finance Committee. PEC approved the new methodology which was put in place for the 2013 and 2014 budget cycles. A resolution will be presented to the Synod of 2014 to approve the new methodology.

RESOLUTIONS IMPLEMENTED IMMEDIATELY AFTER SYNOD

Resolution #1 - PEC President Age Limit

RESOLVED, That Article VII, Paragraph 2 of the Rules and Regulations of the Southern Province be amended by deleting the second sentence: *No person may be elected President after reaching the age of sixty-five*; and,

Resolution #2 - Constitution Amendment (Deleting PFB)

RESOLVED, That The Constitution of the Moravian Church in America, Southern Province, be amended by deleting **Article I, Section 4. Duties and Functions of the Provincial Synod** and substituting in lieu thereof the following:

Article I, Section 4. Duties and Functions of the Provincial Synod

The Provincial Synod shall have power:

- a. to carry out the principles of the Moravian Church (Unitas Fratrum) laid down by the Unity Synod for constitution, doctrine, worship and congregational life;
- b. to examine and oversee the spiritual and temporal affairs of the Province and its congregations;
- c. to legislate in regard to constitution, worship and congregational life for the Province;
- d. to provide the vision, direction and expectations for Provincial mission and ministry and to review the results thereof;
- e. to elect the Provincial Elders' Conference which shall constitute the administrative board of the Province and which shall be responsible to the Synod for the management of the affairs committed to it;
- f. to elect representatives to inter-provincial agencies, boards and such other entities as it deems appropriate;
- g. to elect Bishops;
- h. to elect Delegates to Unity Synod;
- i. to act as the final court of appeal to hear and redress grievances; and,
- j. to perform such other acts as shall be designated to it by the Rules and Regulations and such other acts as shall be lawful under its Articles of Incorporation.

Resolution #3 - Constitution Amendment (Deleting "stated")

Subject: Constitution Amendment (Deleting "stated")

RESOLVED, That *The Constitution of the Moravian Church in America, Southern Province*, be amended by deleting the word "stated" in **I CONSTITUTION, Section 6. Amendments**.

Resolution #4 - Conferential Government

Subject: Conferential Government

RESOLVED, That the following statement on "conferential" government, prepared by the PEC and adopted by the PEC on August 7, 2007 as a working definition, be approved by the 2010 Synod and submitted to the Unity Board for information:

ACTION: The approved statement was submitted to the Unity Board for information at its October 2012 meeting.

Resolution #7 - Provincial Women's Board Membership

RESOLVED, That the Provincial Women's Board be permanently made up of 17 members, plus one paid non-voting Administrative Assistant/Bookkeeper. Ten members will continue to be elected by Synod and six to be appointed by the Provincial Women's Board. The seventeenth member of the board will be a female clergy member appointed by the board to serve a two-year term with the option to be re-appointed for another two-year term.

ACTION: These changes were included in Section 16 of the Rules and Regulations of the Southern Province in the Book of Order.

Resolution #8 - Sabbatical Proposal - Book of Order Change

RESOLVED, That, a new section, Sabbaticals, be added to Book of Order, Paragraph 858, to read as follows:

Sabbaticals for Ordained Pastors and Certified Directors of Christian Education

1. Guidelines for sabbaticals have been established by the PEC and may be accessed on the Southern Province website or from the PEC Office.
2. PEC will emphasize the value and importance of sabbaticals as part of congregational review.
3. For congregations which are unable to provide the financial support needed for funding a sabbatical, the PEC will provide a current list of potential sources of funding.
4. The salary, benefits, and credit toward years of service will continue while a pastor or DCE is on sabbatical.
5. PEC will supervise or designate a committee to work with those individuals interested in applying for a sabbatical.
6. The "Sabbatical Guidelines" approved April 21, 2009, by PEC shall be reviewed and revised by PEC as needed and communicated to all pastors, directors of Christian education, and congregations;

RESOLVED, That the Book of Order, amended Paragraph 858 will be outlined as follows:

858. Leaves of Absence and/or Withdrawal from the Ministry
- a. Leave of Absence (same as before)
 - b. Sabbaticals (NEW and inserted between "a" and "b")
 - c. Withdrawal from the Ministry (same as before)
 - d. Official Functions (same as before)

ACTION: This section was added to the Book of Order.

Resolution #20 - DCE Benefits and Compensation Guidelines

RESOLVED, That the Synod of 2010 commend this work done on behalf of our professional educators serving in the province; and,

RESOLVED, That the Synod of 2010 receive and support the *DCE Benefits and Compensation Guidelines* (Attachment 2) approved by the Provincial Elders' Conference in May, 2010, and encourage their continued use during the intersynodal period between 2010 and 2014.

ACTION: DCE Benefits and Compensation Guidelines were incorporated in the Church Educators Manual which was distributed to all congregations in the Province in 2011.

Resolution #23 - Rules and Regulations Revision (PFB)

RESOLVED, That Section 8. The Financial Board in the *Rules and Regulations of the Moravian Church in America, Southern Province*, shall be deleted.

ACTION: This section was deleted from the Rules of Regulations.