

Establishment of A Voter Guide for the Election of Delegates

ACTION TO BE VOTED ON:

The Rocky Mountain Conference shall establish an election process that shall include the use of a Voter Guide for persons seeking to be included in the delegation for General and Jurisdictional Conferences and who otherwise meet the qualifications for such office as outlined in ¶ 33, 34, and 35 of “The Constitution” of The United Methodist Church as specified in the most current *Book of Discipline* of the Church.

Persons who wish to have their information included in the Guide shall complete the information sheet and submit their information by the same deadline as set for reception of petitions as established by the Annual Conference Planning and Arrangements Committee. This Guide is to include clergy and laity but does not otherwise change Rule D of the Annual Conference Rules and Policies as presented in the current *Journal* of the Conference: *Election of Lay Delegates to General and Jurisdictional Conferences*.

The information sheet shall include, but is not limited to: Name, Gender, Age (by decade or similar enumeration), District, Church or appointment, and Ethnicity.

The following questions shall be answered:

Why do you seek election to the delegation?

How have you been engaged in the conference vision?

What gifts and skills do you offer the delegation as it does its work?

What experience do you bring that will be helpful to the legislative and electoral process?

A wallet-sized picture would be accepted but is not required. The Board of Lay Ministry may wish to request additional information from Lay candidates.

RATIONALE:

Our Annual Conference covers a wide geographical area. It is obvious that we do not know each other as well as we would like. This Voter Guide would do several things.

First, it would allow those persons who wish to be considered for election to our Conference delegations (General and Jurisdictional) to thoughtfully present themselves and their reasons for seeking this office.

Second, it may serve to speed up the election process since all candidates who respond with their information could be assigned a voting number for the balloting prior to the beginning of the Conference Session (as the laity are already capable of doing).

Third, it may serve to identify our most capable leadership for the present and for the

42 future. Fourth, the Voter Guide may continue to enforce our Conference rule that
43 prohibits any campaigning for election. It should be noted that several other Conferences
44 already use such a Guide.

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46 Further, this petition is not intended to change the established Rule for election that the
47 laity have used for several years.

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49 This Voter Guide process is based on the understanding that all of our clergy and laity are
50 persons of inestimable worth; that every election should be a corporate discernment of
51 God's will; that elections should reflect the rich diversity of our Conference; that
52 elections should include theological discourse; and that we should continue to elect
53 leaders from throughout our Conference who will effectively and faithfully serve the
54 mission to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

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57 **PETITION INFORMATION:**

58 EFFECTIVE DATE: Unless otherwise stated, the action of petitions will be effective
59 July 1, 2008.

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61 TERMINATION DATE: Ongoing

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63 ORIGINATOR OF THE PETITION: (individual, church or organization)

64 Ron Hodges

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66 PERSON TO PRESENT PETITION TO CONFERENCE:

67 Ron Hodges

68 12737 Jackson Street, Thornton, CO 80241

69 303.254.6352

70 RonHodges@comcast.net

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72 FINANCIAL IMPACT:

73 Will there be any financial impact to the Conference? Yes

74 If YES , fill in appropriate information below.

75 (To be completed by Originator of Petition)

76 Cost \$ 400.00 (estimated) Period Once every four years

77 (Not to exceed one year.)

78 Funds provided by Annual Conference/Agency_

79 To be included in the cost of the Annual Conference Session.

80 (To be completed by Conference Council on Finance and Administration)

81 Reviewed by Council on Finance and Administration, (date)

82 _____

83 Included in the Proposed 2008 Budget _____ Yes/No. In the amount of _____

84 Recommendation by Council concerning funding

85 _____

86 Reason(s) _____

87 _____

88 _____

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