

1 **NO. 0928**

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3 **(OPERATIONAL BUSINESS ITEM)**

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5 **CHANGE IN REGIONAL BOUNDARIES**

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9 WHEREAS, Farmington, New Mexico relates to the Southeast corner of Colorado in  
10 terms of culture, commerce, education, recreation and is part of the "Four Corners"  
11 marketing and tourism area; and

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13 WHEREAS, Farmington, New Mexico is located fourteen hours from the Regional Office  
14 of the Christian Church in the Southwest, and 7.5 hours from the Tres Rios Area office, it  
15 is 8 hours from the Regional Office of the Central Rocky Mountain(CRMR); and

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17 WHEREAS, the camp used by CRMR in Colorado Springs is closer than the Tres Rios camp  
18 in Carlsbad, and relationships between the youth, women and leaders of Bethany  
19 Christian Church of Farmington, New Mexico, have grown over the past two years with  
20 CRMR where they had not in the past made the drive to be as active in Tres Rios area  
21 activities; and

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23 WHEREAS, *The Design* states:

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25 22. Regions of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) perform within  
26 their established boundaries the function of the church related to their  
27 two-fold purpose of mission and nurture:

28 27. Identifiable geographic, cultural, sociological, and political factors  
29 provide boundaries, which the church may use to establish its own  
30 regional structures

31 (1) by which the church carries out regionally its ministry of  
32 mission and nurture;

33 (2) in which congregations and ministers find their primary  
34 relationships of mutual support and encouragement;

35 3) which provide opportunities for regional fellowship, worship,  
36 and assembly for the consideration of matters of mutual concern;

37 (4) which help to relate the three expressions of the church -  
38 congregational, regional, and general - to one another in the  
39 functioning of the whole church; and

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41 WHEREAS, the official board of the Bethany Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) voted  
42 to affiliate with the Central Rocky Mountain Region on December 3, 2008 and the  
43 congregational vote was unanimous on December 7, 2008; and

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45 WHEREAS, the Executive Committee of the Regional Council of the Christian Church in  
46 the Southwest voted unanimously to honor this request in its meeting on December 23,  
47 2008; and

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49 WHEREAS, the board of the Central Rocky Mountain region voted unanimously to honor  
50 this request and change its regional boundaries accordingly in its meeting in April of  
51 2009; and

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53 WHEREAS, affirmation of regional and area life and ministry in the Christian Church in  
54 the Southwest illustrated that the desire to affiliate with the Central Rocky Mountain  
55 Region comes from the congregations desire to enhance its primary relationships of  
56 mutual support, encouragement, and relationship with all expressions of the church;  
57 and

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59 WHEREAS, *The Design* also states:

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61 29. In the development of any new regional boundaries, existing regional  
62 organizations shall remain intact, subject to modification by mutual  
63 consent of the regions involved, in the light of the corporate judgment of  
64 the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) as expressed through the  
65 General Assembly. The process of reshaping regional boundaries (even if  
66 only one congregation is affected) includes the participation and approval  
67 of the parties involved, the Administrative Committee, the General  
68 Board, and the General Assembly; and

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70 WHEREAS, this request was presented to and affirmed by the Standing Committee on  
71 Renewal and Structural Reform at its meeting February 27-28, 2009 in Dallas, Texas;

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73 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the regional boundaries of the Christian Church in the  
74 Southwest and the Central Rocky Mountain Region shift such that San Juan County, New  
75 Mexico be included in the Central Rocky Mountain Region; and

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77 FINALLY, BE IT RESOLVED that the Administrative Committee and the General Board  
78 include in its operational business items for the General Assembly this change in  
79 regional boundaries.

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General Board of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

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The General Board recommends that the General Assembly  
ADOPT Business Item No. 0928. (Debate time: 12 minutes)

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