

Title: Administrative Committee Report

Origin: Administrative Committee

The Administrative Committee met on Friday and Saturday prior to the General Board and accomplished quite a bit of work.

Our committees met and we worked thru and approved numerous documents. Most of our work centered on our role as the board of the Office of the General Minister and President. Some of the items that we worked thru include the Human Resources Handbook, items related to staff, and the policies by which the OGMP carries out the responsibilities entrusted to it by the General Board and the General Assembly.

Additionally, we received the audit of OGMP and Church Finance Council. Our Finance Committee met with the Auditors from Capin Crouse and we are pleased to report that through prudent financial practices we received a clean audit and resolved all of the issue raised in the 2006 audit. We also amended and finalized the Travel Policies for Boards, Committees, and Commissions of OGMP.

The Administrative Committee also accomplished our responsibilities on your behalf. Among these items are:

- Filling vacancies on the General Nominating committee, General Board, and Administrative committee
- We received an update report from the Committee on Counsel and Mediation related to their current work and their strategy for going forward with future responsibilities
- We acted on the Policy for Fiscal responsibility related to DMF recipients and the audit and review standards that all of the DMF recipients had the opportunity to provide input to through TLC, CGM, and CRM

Our General Minister and President was given the opportunity to share with us and her staff many of the projects, events, and ministries for which they provide direct oversight, including conversation related to receiving stewardship from DHM as part of the CFC merger.

We also spent time in Executive Session as the board to which she is accountable. This time was invaluable to us and our ability to engage in serious dialogue regarding the demands of being the General Minister and President, her vision, goals, and ideas.

Would you please join me in expressing our gratitude to Sharon for her faithful and effective leadership.

I also would like to pass along to you a few items that were presented to the Administrative Committee for information.

The focus of the 2007 distribution for the CGM Escrow of funds was transformation including grants to support DHM transformation training events and scholarships for our racial ethnic pastors. The CGM Escrow is the money shifted from NBA because of the bankruptcy and downsizing in scope of mission.

Additionally, CGM, which is the Council of General Ministries and includes the President of each General Ministry and the three Racial / Ethnic National Pastors, has embraced a document for the promotion of Diversity of Vendor Selection. This document is a recommendation to do business with companies classified as woman, minority, disabled, or veteran owned businesses or be assigned to one of these people as a point of contact within an organization.

In accordance with the Design, the Administrative Committee addressed resolution GA0730, Concerning the Ethical Provision of Health Care in a Religiously Pluralistic Society. This Sense of the Assembly resolution will be included as a Resource Group at the 2009 General Assembly, including a small group study guide for congregational use.

We also approved the appointment of a special task force. The task force will seek to address support of military personnel and their families both during and after deployment. This task force is part of our response to the GA 0728 "The Church's Response to the War in Iraq". This group will include active and retired military, their families, and members of congregations who have developed ministries of support and means by which a congregation can embrace our active military personnel following their return from deployment.

A second business item is to ask the Standing Committee on Renewal and Structural Reform to reshape Sense of the Assembly resolutions by creating an avenue for meaningful dialogue beyond 12 minutes of debate on the General Assembly floor. This group will bring any suggested changes in the Standing Rules for the General Assembly to the General Board meeting in 2009 for forwarding to the 09 Assembly.