



## General Conference Highlights

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### Regionalization Passes by 78%

This means that while we will remain united by our shared doctrine and theology, this legislation will allow each area of the world to do ministry in its own context.

### First Native American Bishop to Preside at General Conference

Bishop David Wilson, resident bishop of the Great Plains Conference was elected the first Native American Bishop in a historic election in 2022 and thus becoming the first bishop to preside at a General Conference in our history!

### Full Communion with Episcopal Church Approved

This will allow for the sharing of clergy and recognition of sacramental rights.

\*Awaiting Episcopal Church Vote

### 40 Year Ban on Gay Clergy Lifted

With a 93% approval rate, General Conference votes to remove the ban on ordination of clergy who are "self-avowed practicing homosexuals."

In addition, delegates voted that superintendents are not to penalize clergy or churches for holding -- or refraining from holding -- same sex weddings.

### Lower Annual Conference Apportionments

U.S. Annual Conferences will be asked to pay lower apportionments compared to what delegates passed at the 2016 General Conference. Conferences will shift from the current base rate of 3.29% to a base rate of 2.6% for 2025 and 2026. Then, if the apportionment collection rate is 90% or higher in those years, the base rate will jump to 2.9% for 2027 and 2028.

### Social Principles Revised

General Conference delegates supported a revision of the Social Principles that deletes the phrase "the practice of homosexuality... is incompatible with Christian teaching."

### First Black Female President of the Council of Bishops

Bishop Tracy S. Malone, resident bishop of the East Ohio Conference, is the first black woman in the history of the worldwide denomination to be elected president of the Council of Bishops!

### Deacons Granted Sacramental Authority

Deacons can now offer Holy Communion and conduct baptisms where they have been appointed to serve, whether that is a church, outreach ministry or mission.