

5th District Lay Organization Legislative Committee Report August 1, 2014

To: President Simeon Rhoden, Executive Board Members and Lay Members

The 5th District Lay Organization Legislative Committee respectfully submit our report.

Mr. Harold Mackey and Ms. Sandra Nelson are representing the 5th District on the Connectional Lay Legislative Committee monthly teleconference calls. Jacqueline Sibblies, Chair, has requested that her committee meet during the Fall Executive Board Meeting. President Rhoden has been advised of this request.

The 57th session of the 5th District Lay Organization directed the committee to submit legislation to the Connectional Lay changing a section of the Nomination and Election Procedures in the Constitution and By-Laws. The proposed amendment is presented for your action.

The following bills were submitted to the committee for consideration and the proposers of the legislation who were onsite met with us to answer any questions and/or concerns:

- 1. Transparency of Connectional Budget Church Assessments
- 2. Merging the Department of Annuities & Investments with the Treasurer
- 3. Reduction of Travel Expenses for Retired Bishops and General Officers
- 4. Phasing Out Ecumenical Officer
- 5. Filling a Vacant Bishop Office
- 6. Composition of Steward Board
- 7. Growing the Local Lay Organization
- 8. Ministerial Training Board Composition (request from SCCO to look at possibility at adding a lay person to Board of Examiners.) We propose this legislation.
- 9. Qualifications of Chief Financial Officer (proposed legislation to ensure most qualified person is elected which does not presuppose an ordained candidate. Purpose is to make CFO a lay position)

The committee requests your action on these bills. This is your opportunity to comment, revise, edit and improve on this legislation. Please share these bills with your local lay organizations and provide feedback to the committee. We would like to recommend that the Legislative Committee be authorized to finalize any bills that we deem worthy and bring them back for a second meeting at the call of our President. The committee would like to forward our bills to the connectional Lay committee by its deadline of December 2014.

Committee Members: Sandra Nelson, Chair and Melvin Jenkins, Co-chair

Jo Lee Brooks, Midwest Eddie Broomfield, Missouri Carol Young, California

Jerome Greer, California Faye Combs, California Bettye Owens, PNW

Cora Jean Brodnaye, DM Sandra Dockery, California