



# GCFA's Disciplinary Responsibilities

2008 Edition

# Definition of a General Council

- ¶ 703 An organization created by the General Conference to perform defined responsibilities of review and oversight on behalf of the General Conference in relation to the other general agencies and to perform other assigned functions.

# Primary Responsibilities

- Fiscal accountability
  1. Quadrennial general Church budget
  2. Receive and disburse general Church apportionments
  3. Review accounting procedures and annual spending plans of entities receiving general Church funds
  4. Arrange for external and internal audits

# Primary Responsibilities

- Fiscal and Administrative accountability
  1. Develop investment policies and guidelines
  2. Function as Board of Trustees
  3. Protect the legal interests of the denomination
  4. Uniform policies and practices in employment and remuneration

# Primary Responsibilities

- Administrative accountability
  1. Maintain records of clergy and officers of organizations
  2. Collect and analyze important statistics of the UMC
  3. Resource the connection on matters relating to the work of GCFA
  4. Institute and maintain an insurance program for the UMC

# General Policies

- Ensure equal employment policy is implemented
- Eliminate unnecessary duplication of administrative function in entities receiving general Church funds
- Oversee fundraising activity at the general Church level

# General Funds

- Oversight of:
  1. Seven general apportioned funds
  2. Six special Sundays with offerings
  3. Special churchwide financial appeals
  4. World Service Specials
  5. The Advance
- Administration of the Episcopal Fund

# General Conference

- Treasurer of the General Conference
- Provide staff member to serve as business manager of the General Conference

# Central Conferences

- Apportionment calculations
- Copies of journals of proceedings
- Copies of translations and adaptations of the general Discipline
- Pensions for retired bishops

# Local Church and Annual Conference

- Official forms and records for membership
- Special churchwide Sundays with offerings
- Clergy reports to annual conference
- Copies of annual conference journals

# Annual Conference

- Official records of secretaries, statisticians and treasurers
- Guidelines for clergy records
- Safe Sanctuary policies
- Working relationships with councils on finance and administration

# General Church Entities

- CT – Quadrennial budgets and annual spending plans of general agencies
- GBOD – Division on Ministries with Young People
- GBHEM – Funding for United Methodist higher education
- GBOPHB – Central Conference Pension Initiative and health and wellness data

# General Church Entities

- UMCom – Computers for communication and marketing of churchwide financial appeals
- GCCUIC – Ecumenical and interreligious financial support through the Interdenominational Cooperation Fund
- GCRR – Implementation of inclusiveness and nondiscrimination policies on the basis of race or ethnic heritage

# General Church Entities

- GCSRW – Implementation of inclusiveness and nondiscrimination policies on the basis of gender
- Standing Committee on Central Conference Matters – GCFA bishop as member

# Legal Responsibilities

- Register and supervise use of the official United Methodist insignia, the Cross and Flame
- Register and supervise use of the words *United Methodist*
- Intervene in legal processes to present the nonjural nature of The United Methodist Church