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new
every
morning

LEGISLATION

2023 Legislative Report & Consent Calendar

2023 Annual Conference

June 2-4, 2023

Grand Traverse Resort

Acme, Michigan



Michigan Conference

The United Methodist Church

MICHIGAN ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2023 LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

PROPOSED CONSENT CALENDAR

R#2023 - 4 A Call to Promote Justice for Palestinians

2023 LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE ACTIONS

VOTING ITEM R#2023-4, pg 5 -- A Call to Promote Justice for Palestinians

Legislative Committee 1 -- Chair: Rev. Joel Pier-Fitzgerald

Recorder: Rev. Carol Freeland

Amendment #1: Line 30, Add new last bullet -- "contact their United States Congressional representative and ask them to support passage of Defending the Human Rights of Palestinian Children and Families Living Under Israeli Military Occupation Act (H.R. 3103) introduced by Congresswoman Betty McCollum."

Action on amendment #1: Yes – 155, No – 10 (*amendment passed*)

Final Action: Yes – 156 (92%) No - 13

On Consent Calendar: YES

VOTING ITEM R#2023-5, pg 6 -- In Support of Creating a U.S. Regional Conference

Legislative Committee 3 -- Chair: Andy Wayne

Recorder: Kathy Pittenger

Final Action: Yes – 141 (78%) No -- 40

On Consent Calendar: NO

VOTING ITEM R#2023-6, pg 7 -- Third Grade Reading Efficiency in Local Communities

Legislative Committee 1 -- Chair: Rev. Joel Pier-Fitzgerald

Recorder: Rev. Carol Freeland

Amendment #1: Lines 31 & 32, delete last sentence -- "Such progress reports will become part of the annual report of the congregation as they celebrate local ministry with their respective community to the district superintendent."

Action on amendment #1: Yes – 142, No – 17 (*amendment passed*)

Amendment #2: Lines 28 and 29, item b -- insert "materials and" after pertinent; insert "early" after proficient; add at end of item b) "from Pre-Kindergarten through grade 2;"

Line 29, item c – replace "the meeting of reading goals for all 3rd grade students" with "enhancing fund of vocabulary words, letter identification, letter/sound relationships and reading for pleasure,"

Action on amendment #2: Yes -- 120, No -- 43 (*amendment passed*)

Amendment #3 SUBSTITUTE: Be it resolved that the Michigan Annual Conference will encourage each congregation to help local public school 3rd grade students achieve reading proficiency in the 2023-24 school year and beyond. This would include, but not be limited to, providing volunteers for tutoring from your congregation. The congregation, if they choose, can include the reading level of the 3rd grade class they are helping in their annual report. The proficiency information would come from The Michigan Student Test of Educational Progress or known as M_Step Test..

Amendment #1 to Substitute — Replace “come from The Michigan Student Test of Educational Progress or M_Step Test” with “be determined by current state measuring methods or other equitable tools”.

Action on Amendment #1 to Substitute: Yes – 114, No -- 51

Action on amended #3 Substitute: Yes -- 77, No – 88 (substitute failed)

Amendment #4: Line 33, add at the end “Michigan United Methodists are also encouraged to work with their local school boards to strive for more effective reading curriculum.”

Action on amendment #4: Yes -- 104, No -- 53 (amendment passed)

Amendment #5: Line 29, replace “2nd grade” with “3rd grade”

Action on amendment #5: Yes – 125, No – 27 (amendment passed)

Amendment #6: Line 23, replace “anticipates” with “encourages” and add at the end of the paragraph “The proficiency information would be determined by current state measuring methods or other equitable tools.”

Action on amendment #6: Yes – 119, No – 39 (amendment passed)

FINAL AMENDED RESOLUTION:

23 - Be it resolved that The Michigan Conference encourages that: every congregation of the Conference to engage with local school districts to discern needs pertinent to empowering every 3rd grade student to reach reading proficiency in the 2023-4 and subsequent school years. The proficiency information would be determined by current state measuring methods or other equitable tools.

27 - This includes, but is not limited to: a) providing volunteers for tutoring or funding for the hiring of tutors, b) provide \$100 for the purchase of pertinent materials and books that empower proficient early reading from Pre-Kindergarten through 3rd grade, c) provide at least \$100 financial assistance for supplies needed to encourage enhancing fund of vocabulary words, letter identification, letter/sound relationships and reading for pleasure. Michigan United Methodists are also encouraged to work with their local school boards to strive for more effective reading curriculum.

Final Action: Yes – 137 (86%) No - 22
On Consent Calendar: No

VOTING ITEM R#2023-7, pg 8 -- Affirmation of the Queer Delegates' Call to Center Justice and Empowerment for LGBTQIA+ People in The UMC

Legislative Committee 2 -- Chair: Todd Price

Recorder: Diane Brown

~~Amendment #1: Lines 15 & 16, delete Item #2 (both lines)~~

Action on amendment #1: Yes – 56, **No – 123** (*amendment failed*)

Final Action: Yes – **153 (86%)** No - 25

On Consent Calendar: No

VOTING ITEM R#2023-8, pg 9 -- Encouraging Leadership With Integrity

Legislative Committee 4 -- Chair: Diane Brown

Recorder: Rev. Carol Freeland

Final Action: Yes – **147 (80%)** No - 37

On Consent Calendar: No

VOTING ITEM R#2023-9, pg 10 -- Supporting the Removal of Discriminatory Policies

Legislative Committee 3 -- Chair: Andy Wayne

Recorder: Kathy Pittenger

Amendment #1: Line 6, after “orientation,” add “and gender identities”

Action on amendment #1: **Yes – 125**, No – 55 (*amendment passed*)

Final Action: Yes – **137 (75%)** No - 45

On Consent Calendar: No

VOTING ITEM R#2023-10, pg 11 – Recognize the Unborn Baby

Legislative Committee 4 -- Chair: Diane Brown

Recorder: Rev. Carol Freeland

Final Action: Yes – 48 **No – 133 (73%)**

On Consent Calendar: No
