

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS UNITED METHODIST MEN
LOUISIANA CONFERENCE – THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Article I
NAME

The name of this organization shall be Louisiana Conference United Methodist Men, the United Methodist Church, and hereinafter abbreviated LCUMM.

Article II
HEADQUARTERS

The LCUMM headquarters will be the Council of Ministries Office, Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

Article III
PURPOSE

The United Methodist Men of the local Church is the heart of the Men's program. The purpose of the LCUMM is to make disciples for Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world by challenging, deepening, inspiring, motivating men of the Church, to assist the Conference, District, and the local Church organization in developing Christian discipleship among men, and help involve men in the total ministry of the Church.

Article IV
AUTHORITY

The United Methodist Men shall have the authority to promote its work in accordance with the plans, responsibilities, and policies of the section on United Methodist Men under the direction of General Commission on United Methodist Men (GCUMM). The LCUMM shall be autonomous with direct relations to Conference Boards through having members on the Board of Laity, Board of Discipleship, Conference Committee on Nominations, and Council of Ministries. A summary report of the past year's activities shall be given verbally at each Annual conference and a written copy included in each Conference Journal.

Article V
OBJECTIVES

The general objectives of the organization shall be to provide inspiration, leadership, and support to the District and the local Methodist Men Ministries.

Assist United Methodist Men to:

- A. Seek daily Christ's way of life; to bear witness to this way in business dealings and in social contacts; to engage in some definite Christian service.
- B. Study and become familiar with the United Methodist Church, its organizations, and its doctrines.
- C. Promote personal evangelism.
- D. Develop Christian fellowship in the church.
- E. Work with the Bishop, District Superintendent, and Pastors in promoting the program of the Church.
- F. Cooperate with the GCUMM in the promotion of District, Annual Conference, and general church-wide projects.
- G. Provide training events for Conference and District leaders.
- H. Assist District organizations and local United Methodist Men ministries to obtain their goals and objectives.

**Article VI
MEMBERSHIP**

The membership shall be the United Methodist men of the Conference. The resident Bishop and all clergy members of the Annual Conference shall be members of the conference organization of LCUMM.

**Article VII
ORGANIZATION**

The men of the Louisiana Conference shall be organized into local Church United Methodist Men's ministries. These ministries shall constitute Districts in accordance with the Districts of the Louisiana Conference United Methodist Church. These Districts shall constitute the LCUMM. Each local area and District shall have its own duly elected officers as set forth in their By-laws for that particular level of organization.

The LCUMM shall be governed by a body known as the "Executive Board", consisting of the President, who shall serve as chairman; Vice-President; Secretary; Treasurer; Chairman, Nominating Committee; all Committee chairmen appointed by the President; and Past Presidents. The Executive Board shall meet quarterly, and/or at the call of the President, at such time and place, or conference call, as he designates.

Officers of LCUMM shall be:

- 1. President
- 2. First Vice President
- 3. Secretary
- 4. Treasurer
- 5. District Presidents (6)

6. Chairman, Nominations Committee
7. Regional Directors (3): North, Southwest, and Southeast Areas
8. Past President

The following shall be advisory members:

1. The Bishop of the Louisiana Conference
2. Conference Lay Leader
3. Past presidents of the LCUMM
4. Cabinet Liaison appointed by the Bishop
5. Pastor Representative

The following Special Officers recommended by the President:

- 1.State Prayer Advocate
- 2.Youth Services Coordinator
- 3.Disciple Bible Outreach Ministry Coordinator
- 4.Logistics Officer
- 5.Communications Officer (Public Relations)
- 6.Hunger Relief Advocate
- 7.Scouting Ministry Coordinator
- 8.Sports Ministry Coordinator
9. Training Coordinator
10. Men’s Ministry Specialist Coordinator

An Executive Committee consisting of the President, First Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Past President shall have full power and authority to act for the Board between meetings.

Article VIII BY-LAWS

I. Duties of officers

A. President

- a. The President shall be the Executive Officer of the organization, and it shall be his duty to preside at all regular and special meetings.
 - 1) He shall have general oversight of all work of the LCUMM.
 - 2) He shall be the convener and preside over the Executive Board and Executive Committee meetings.
 - 3) He shall have other responsibilities as described by the GCUMM and the Louisiana Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church.

- b. The President of the LCUMM shall have the power and the authority to establish additional committees, which are not otherwise provided for herein, and to name the Chairman thereof. The President shall prepare a description of the duties and responsibilities of each position to be appointed and present it to the Executive Board for approval.

B. Vice Presidents

1. First Vice President

- A. Will be considered as President-Elect.
- B. Will assist the President in implementing present programs, and will have an "on the job training period".
- C. Shall serve as Program Director to coordinate and bring to the attention of the United Methodist Men important events scheduled at National, Annual Conference, District, and local levels.

2. The Regional Directors

- A. Shall work under the direction of the President to promote the organization and assist District Presidents.
- B. Shall do recruiting of churches and pastors to become members of the Louisiana Conference United Methodist Men.
- C. Shall encourage District and local units to provide retreats and special events for men such as annual Men's Day celebrations and Laity Day, and assist, when possible, in their planning and publicity and will help plan and promote any additional activity as directed by the Executive Board.
- D. Training of United Methodist Men leaders will be one of the responsibilities of this office.

C. Secretary

- a. Shall keep all records of the LCUMM. These records shall include the minutes from all meetings of the Executive Board, Committees, and the annual meeting of the LCUMM.
- b. Minutes shall be presented for approval at the next meeting of the Executive Board.

D. Treasurer

- a. Shall collect and disburse all funds or recommend payment through LCUMM funds.
- b. Adequate, orderly, and proper records shall be kept.
- c. A written report shall be made to each meeting of the Executive Board.

- d. Disbursements shall be made upon authorization of the Executive Board.
- e. Shall serve as Chairman of the Finance Committee.
- f. Will receive all requests for funds.
 - 1) Budgetary Fund requests shall come from all officers and will be evaluated on the basis of need for the function, or continuing function, and the growth of the LCUMM.
- g. Will prepare the Annual Budget.
- h. Shall disburse each District's portion of Every Man Shares (EMS) funds received by the LCUMM to active LCUMM Districts. Active Districts are determined by the President.
- i. When a District becomes inactive, any assets in that District's treasury shall be transferred to the LCUMM Treasurer and held in a special account until that District becomes active again.

E. Finance Committee

- a. There shall be a Finance Committee, consisting of no more than five (5) members, appointed by the LCUMM Executive Officers Committee for a two (2) year term.
- b. All financial askings, to be included in the annual budget of the LCUMM, shall be submitted to the Finance Committee. The Finance Committee shall compile annually a complete budget for the LCUMM and present it to the LCUMM Executive Board for review and adoption. The Finance Committee shall be charged with responsibility for developing and implementing plans that will raise sufficient income to meet the budget adopted by the LCUMM Executive Board. It shall administer the funds received according to instructions from the LCUMM Executive Board.
- c. The Finance Committee shall carry out the LCUMM Executive Board directions in guiding the Treasurer.
- d. The Finance Committee shall establish written financial policies to document the internal controls of the LCUMM. The written financial policies should be reviewed for adequacy and effectiveness annually by the Finance Committee and submitted as a report to the LCUMM Executive Board annually.
- e. The Finance Committee shall recommend to the LCUMM Executive Board proper depositories for the group's funds. Funds received shall be deposited promptly in the name of the organization.
- f. The Treasurer shall make regular and detailed reports on funds received and expended to the Finance Committee and the LCUMM Executive Board.

F. Expense of the Board

- a. The policies controlling the expenses incurred by the Executive Board in the performance of their duties, and the Executive Board,

in line with the adopted budget, shall determine the expense and costs of the programs and projects.

G. Nominations Committee

- a. The Chairman shall be elected at the annual meeting of the LCUMM at least one year prior to the election of the other LCUMM Officers.
- b. The Nominations Committee is charged with the nominating of all elected leaders of the LCUMM as outlined in the By-laws.
- c. The President of the LCUMM shall select at least five (5) members: one (1) past president, one (1) District President, Secretary, and two (2) board members to serve on the Nominating Committee.
- d. The LCUMM President shall be an ex-officio member of the committee.
- e. The Committee shall take all care that geographical areas and ethnic groups of the Conference are represented.
- f. Each nominee for office shall be contacted personally by a member of the Nominations Committee for acceptance and commitment to the office nominated and agrees to take the responsibility of the office.

H. District President

- a. Shall serve on the Executive Board of the LCUMM.
- b. Shall be elected according to the rules of their representative District.
 - 1) If a District is not established and operating with members, the Conference President and Directors shall develop a Team until the District is in full operations and have members to hold a proper election.
- c. Shall complete training for his position.
- d. The President of a District shall submit a Plan of Operations, approved by the District's Board, before the start of each year to the Conference President. The Plan of Operations shall consist of membership meeting dates, events, fund raisers, new and renewing charters plan, and a list of all district officers' address, phone numbers, and e-mail address.
- e. The District President shall submit a copy of the District Constitution and By-Laws to the Conference Secretary with his District Secretary and Treasurer giving quarterly reports to the Conference Secretary.

II. Elections and Terms of Office

No man shall be considered for election to Conference President of the LCUMM unless he has served for at least two years immediately prior to election in a LCUMM position, either elected or appointed, or as a District President.

- A. At the time of elections the Committee on Nominations shall present nominees for office, per By-laws. Only those members who are active in a local chartered unit are eligible for nomination.
- B. Elections for LCUMM President shall take place at the annual meeting of the LCUMM in the year the General Conference is held and prior to Annual Conference. There shall be an opportunity for nominations from the floor for any position. Election may be by acclamation or a ballot with a majority vote sufficient for election. Other Conference Officers shall be elected every two years with one of the elections coinciding with the election of Conference President.
- C. The Executive Board, upon recommendation by the Committee on Nominations and the President, shall fill vacancies occurring in the elected leadership of the LCUMM.

D. Tenure

- i. Elected leaders shall not hold the same office for more than four consecutive years and shall not hold elective offices for more than eight consecutive years, except, that the Conference President may be allowed to serve for four years after he has served in other positions for up to eight years.

E. Terms of Office

- 1. Elected leaders shall assume office immediately at close of Annual Conference in the year they are elected.
- 2. Every second year officers will be elected for a two-year period, except the President, whose term shall be for four years, as outlined in the By-Laws.

Article IX MEETINGS

The LCUMM shall operate on a yearly basis, January 1 through December 31.

There shall be at least one annual meeting of the LCUMM membership, held before Annual Conference, and will include a business session.

Notice of all called meetings will be given, in writing or via email, to all Executive Board members at least 14 days prior to the meeting.

The President may call the Executive Committee into meeting at any time, and this committee shall have full power and authority to act for the Executive Board.

Meetings called by the President will be at times and places, or conference call, as he determines.

Article X
AMENDMENTS AND ADDITIONAL BY-LAWS

Amendment to this Constitution and these By-laws may be made by majority vote at the annual LCUMM meeting.

Proposed amendments to this Constitution and these By-laws must be sent to the LCUMM Secretary at least sixty (60) days prior to annual meeting. The Secretary will then announce the suggested changes, using mail and media resources to inform the LCUMM of proposed changes.