

1 **Document: 650.01**
2 **Name: Discontinuance of Alsip: Christ**
3 **Author(s): District Superintendent, Dr. Audrea F. Nanabray, Lake South District**
4 **CCFA Action:**

5 **ACTION:**

6 WHEREAS the Christ United Methodist Church (“Christ UMC”) located in the City of Alsip, Illinois at
7 the commonly known address 3730 W. 119th Street in Rich Township of Cook County, Illinois was formed
8 and has witnessed to Jesus Christ and served its community and the world for many years and having
9 closed on July 20, 2025, and

10 WHEREAS Christ UMC faithfully served the community in the City of Alsip, IL, and boldly risked
11 themselves in this effort; and

12 WHEREAS, pursuant to the provision of Paragraph 2549 of *The Book of Discipline of The United*
13 *Methodist Church 2020/2024*, the Lake South District Superintendent has recommended with the approval
14 of the District Strategy Team that the church be discontinued effective July 20, 2025. The Lake South
15 District Committee on Building and Location has voted to concur with the District Superintendent’s
16 recommendation to discontinue said church and the presiding Bishop and the majority of the District
17 Superintendents of the Northern Illinois Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church have
18 consented to the District Superintendent’s recommendation to discontinue said church;

19 THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that to minimize the risk of loss of future bequests to the Conference,
20 the Northern Illinois Annual Conference recommends that the said Church, though discontinued under the
21 Canon Law of The United Methodist Church, nevertheless be maintained in perpetuity under the Illinois
22 civil law by adopting a reincorporation thereof by the Bishop under Section 46b of the Illinois Religious
23 Corporation Act, with the incumbent Conference Board of Trustees names as trustees of the Discontinued
24 Church under the procedure established by Article VII “Discontinued or Abandoned Church
25 Reincorporation” of the By-laws of the Northern Illinois Annual Conference of The United Methodist
26 Church; and

27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that all properties and assets of said Church, including, but not limited
28 to its existing and future gifts, devises, and bequests, its existing personal property and accounts and
29 its real property commonly known as 3730 W. 119th Street, Alsip, IL, 60803,

30 Shall become the properties and assets of the Northern Illinois Conference of The United Methodist
31 Church, and

32 Shall, in the discretion of the Bishop in consultation with the Cabinet, be either:

- 33 a. Retained by the reincorporated shell Illinois religious corporation referred to above pending
34 sale or other disposition; or
- 35 b. Transferred to the Board of Trustees of the Northern Illinois Annual Conference of The United
36 Methodist Church; and

37 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the members of the said Church shall be transferred to First United
38 Methodist Church in Oak Lawn, Illinois, unless any such members shall inform the pastor of the transferee
39 church otherwise; and

40 BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the appropriate officers of The Northern Illinois Annual Conference of
41 The United Methodist Church are authorized and directed to execute on behalf of the said Conference any
42 and all such additional documents as legal counsel shall recommend to effectuate the above.

43 **RATIONALE:**

44 After many faithful years of service, ministry and mission in the name of Jesus Christ, Christ United
45 Methodist Church of Alsip has come to a place of transition and closure as membership and attendance
46 have declined. The congregation has expressed its desire to celebrate its past ministry but to no longer
47 remain in service as Christ United Methodist Church. The closure has been recommended by the Lake
48 South Board on Church Location and Buildings and the District Superintendent.

1 **Document: 702.02**
2 **Name: Revise Standing Rules related to Annual Conference Shepherding Team**
3 **Author(s): Annual Conference Shepherding Team, Mark Manzi & Caleb Hong, Co-Chairs**
4 **CCFA Action:**

5 **ACTION:**

6 Amend the Northern Illinois Conference Standing Rules regarding Annual Conference Shepherding Team
7 Section III, D, 11 as follows:

8 **Shepherding Teams (“NIC”) (§ 608)**

9 **Role of the ACST**

10 The Annual Conference Shepherding Team was created to advance the overall mission of the Northern
11 Illinois Conference by ensuring the proper use and alignment of resources to achieve it. The ACST serves
12 as a place for consultation, advice, and decision-making, and provides connections between conference
13 administrative and ministry areas, the cabinet, District Shepherding Teams, and local churches. It serves
14 to build trust, collaboration, and accountability in the conference’s responsibility to live out its mission.
15 Specifically, the ACST is:

- 16 - A council of advisers to the bishop and conference leadership
- 17 - A decision-making body between annual conference sessions and for those items not requiring
18 conference action
- 19 - A contributor to the overall budgeting process with final review prior to annual conference
20 session
- 21 - The oversight body for the District Shepherding Teams in collaboration with the district
22 superintendents
- 23 - An adaptive learning organization that provides insights and teaching about effective leadership
24 in the 21st century church

25 **I. Overview**

26 The organizational structure shall be centered on an Annual Conference Shepherding Team (“ACST”).
27 There shall be a separate District Shepherding Team (DST) in each of the districts. Both Co-Chairs of
28 each DST (6 members in total) shall also serve as members of the ACST as outlined below. The ACST
29 shall be an adaptive learning organization whose primary purposes shall be to coordinate and
30 communicate the ministry of the NIC for the sake of making disciples for Jesus Christ. The primary
31 purposes of each DST shall be to coordinate the equipping of local churches so that they might be
32 faithful, Christ-centered communities of worship, prayer, witness and change, and to enhance the
33 connection between local churches, the districts and the NIC.

34 **II. Annual Conference Shepherding Team (“ACST”)**

- 35 **a. Responsibilities.** The responsibilities of the ACST shall include,
- 36 i. Leading as a learning organization in addressing the technical and adaptive, challenges and
37 opportunities presented to the NIC.
 - 38 ii. Providing coordination of the ministry, mission, and vision of the NIC.
 - 39 iii. Discerning a 5-year vision plan; presenting it for approval by NIC; communicating it
40 throughout the NIC, monitoring and adapting it on an annual basis.
 - 41 iv. Focusing NIC resources to equip local churches and ministry settings to make disciples of Jesus
42 Christ for the transformation of the world.
 - 43 v. Facilitating communication and healthy relationships between districts, NIC leadership, staff,
44 committees, and ministries.
 - 45 vi. Advocating, monitoring, and celebrating diversity at every level of leadership throughout the
46 NIC.
 - 47 vii. ~~Stewarding financial and leadership resources for maximum missional impact. The role of the~~
48 ~~ACST in the budgeting process shall be to augment the existing process in which the budget is~~

49 prepared by the Conference Council on Finance and Administration (“CCFA”) and approved by
50 the NIC. The ACST shall consult with CCFA in the allocation of resources according to the
51 ~~missional program~~ priorities of the NIC. Communicate and collaborate with CCFA toward
52 alignment of financial resources with priorities and vision. At each meeting of ACST, the CCFA
53 designate shall make a presentation regarding the financial position of NIC, including but not
54 limited to the budget. ACST may make recommendations to CCFA regarding the annual budget of
55 the NIC.

56 viii. Resolving leadership and function questions that do not require approval by the NIC between
57 annual conference sessions.

58 ix. Guiding the NIC in the event of a significant shift in the denomination or jurisdictional
59 realignment of conferences.

60 x. Adapting the organizational structure further to align with the missional priorities of the NIC.

61 xi. Developing clear and concise qualitative and quantitative metrics to evaluate the effectiveness
62 of ACST structure and work.

63 xii. Reporting annually to NIC on fulfillment of the above responsibilities.

64 **b. Core Areas of focus.** The ACST shall prayerfully focus on the following Core Areas of priority
65 identified in the Landscape process:

66 I. Congregational Life

67 1. Creating and revitalizing congregational cultures that are deep in faith and engaged for
68 evangelism.

69 2. Developing new churches and faith communities.

70 3. Assessing and reconfiguring local churches.

71 II. Clergy Life

72 1. Fostering clergy health and morale.

73 2. Fostering an environment that identifies and supports persons with a clear sense of call and
74 commitment to set apart ministry.

75 3. Fostering on-going faith formation.

76 4. Ensuring development and accountability of clergy.

77 III. Missional Life

78 1. Equipping, supporting, and connecting local churches for missions of mercy (direct service)
79 in their local communities, across the NIC and beyond.

80 2. Equipping, supporting, and connecting local churches for justice (systemic change) work in
81 their local communities, across the state and beyond.

82 3. Advocating diversity, inclusiveness, and cultural competency.

83 IV. Connectional Resources

84 1. Managing and allocating conference resources toward NIC vision and strategy.

85 2. Evaluating, assessing, and communicating the apportionment formula on an on-going basis.

86 3. Developing systems of administration for use by local churches.

87 **c. Membership.**

88 **i. Members.** The ACST shall have the following members:

89 *Voice and Vote* (~~20 Members~~)

90 • Co-Chair – Lay

91 • Co-Chair – Clergy

92 • Conference Lay Leader

93 • Board of Trustees, Chair or Designate

94 • Council on Finance and Administration, Chair or Designate

95 • Committee on Nominations, Chair or Designate

96 • Board of Ordained Ministry, Chair or Designate

97 • Annual Conference Committee, Chair or Designate

98 • Vital Congregations Ministries, Designate

99 • Discipleship Ministries, Designate

- 100 • Justice and Mercy Ministries, Designate
- 101 • 3 Ethnic Caucus Designates
- 102 • District Co-Chairs (Lay and Clergy)
- 103 • ~~Lake North DST, Co-Chairs (Lay through 2020)~~
- 104 • ~~Lake South DST, Co-Chairs (Clergy through 2020)~~
- 105 • ~~Prairie Central DST, Co-Chairs (Clergy through 2020)~~
- 106 • ~~Prairie North DST, Co-Chairs (Clergy through 2020)~~
- 107 • ~~Prairie South DST, Co-Chairs (Lay through 2020)~~

108 *Voice Only; No Vote (3 Members)*

- 109 • Bishop
- 110 • Assistant to the Bishop
- 111 • Director of Connectional Ministries
- 112 • Communications Staff Member

113 **ii. Selection of Members.** Members of the ACST shall be selected, as follows:

- 114 1. Co-Chairs shall be appointed by the bishop.
- 115 2. Conference Lay Leader shall be chosen per Disciplinary requirements in the ordinary course of
- 116 the nominations process.
- 117 3. Chairs of the Board of Trustees, Council on Finance and Administration, Committee on
- 118 Nominations, Board of Ordained Ministry and Annual Conference Committee shall be chosen per
- 119 Disciplinary requirements in the ordinary course of the nominations process. In the event that a
- 120 member of a committee, council or board is to be designated as the member of the ACST in place
- 121 of the chair, such committee, council, or board shall adopt its own process for designation.
- 122 4. Designates of Vital Congregations Ministries, Discipleship Ministries, and Justice and Mercy
- 123 Ministries shall each be chosen separately, according to the following process:

- 124 **a.** The chairs of the Constituent Groups of Vital Congregations Ministries, Discipleship
- 125 Ministries, and Justice and Mercy Ministries shall gather in separate meetings, each convened
- 126 by the Director of Connectional Ministries for the purpose of nominating 3 candidates for each
- 127 Designate position.

128 The initial Constituent Groups for purposes of nominating candidates to be the first Designates

129 to the ACST shall be:

- 130 1. Vital Congregations Ministries (~~6~~ 4 Constituent Groups)
 - 131 • Committee of Accessibility Ministries
 - 132 • PATH (Planting and THriving) Team ~~Congregational Development and~~
 - 133 ~~Redevelopment (Code Red)~~
 - 134 • Keagy Town & Rural Ministry
 - 135 • Hispanic/Latinx Ministry Team
 - 136 • Fellowship of Asian American
 - 137 • Chicago Black Methodist for Church Renewal
- 138 2. Discipleship Ministries (6 Constituent Groups)
 - 139 • Conference Board of Higher Education and Campus Ministry (CBHECM)
 - 140 • Older Adult Ministries
 - 141 • Outdoor and Retreat Ministries (ORM)
 - 142 • Council of Young People's Ministries
 - 143 • Committee on Discipleship and Spiritual Formation.
 - 144 • Conference Board of Laity
- 145 3. Justice and Mercy Ministries (~~8~~ 7 Constituent Groups)
 - 146 • Board of Church and Society
 - 147 • Commission on Christian Unity & Interreligious Relations (CCUIR)
 - 148 • Commission on Religion and Race (CORR)
 - 149 • Commission on Status and Role of Women (CSROW)

150
151
152
153
154
155
156
157
158
159
160
161
162
163
164
165
166
167
168
169
170
171
172
173
174
175
176
177
178
179
180
181
182
183
184
185
186
187
188
189
190
191
192
193
194
195
196
197
198
199

- Committee on Native American Ministries (CONAM)
- Committee on Creation Care
- Committee on Inclusion
- Conference Board of Global Ministries (CBGM), including:
 - Conference Mission Secretary
 - District Mission Secretaries
 - District United Women in Faith (UW Faith) Representatives
 - Disaster Coordinator
 - ~~Hunger Coordinator~~
 - Refugee Coordinator
 - Volunteers in Mission (VIM) Coordinator
 - ~~Urban Ministries~~
 - ~~Rural (Keagy) Ministries~~
 - United Methodist Women Representative
 - United Methodist Men Representative

b. The Committee on Nominations shall select each Designate from among the 3 nominees with the primary objective of ensuring diversity on the ACST.

4. Designates of the Ethnic Caucuses shall be chosen by the Ethnic Caucuses pursuant to their own process for designation.

5. Chairs of the DSTs shall be chosen as outlined below.

iii. Qualifications and Commitment of Members.

1. Co-Chairs and Designates of Vital Congregations Ministries, Discipleship Ministries, and Justice and Mercy Ministries shall serve on the ACST exclusively; they shall not serve in other positions in the NIC or an Ethnic Caucus.

2. Designates of Vital Congregations Ministries, Discipleship Ministries, and Justice and Mercy Ministries shall have demonstrated a genuine interest and concern in most, if not all, of the Constituent Groups being represented and commitment to keeping up with their work and concerns.

3. Members of the ACST shall have demonstrated a genuine interest and commitment to stewardship of the mission, priorities, and vision of the NIC.

4. Members of the ACST shall be expected to attend meetings themselves to ensure the cohesion and continuity of the team. As shared experience contributes to shared visioning and leadership, there is no substitute for attendance.

iv. Terms

1. To ensure both continuity as well as constant renewal of the ACST, Voting Members shall be limited to a single term of four (4) years unless membership derives from a position in the NIC having different term requirements.

2. Co-Chairs of the ACST shall serve 2 years as Vice Chair followed by 2 years as Chair. ~~The first Chair shall commence on his/her term or about November 2017, serve as Chair for 2 years and rotate off the ACST on June 30, 2020. The first Vice Chair shall commence his/her term on or about November 2017, become Chair on July 1, 2020, and rotate off on June 30, 2022. A new Vice Chair will commence his/her term every 2 years as the previous Vice Chair rotates to the Chair position.~~

3. To ensure continuity, Members shall serve four-year terms commencing either

- a. ~~July 1, 2020, and On July 1 of each year of a General Conference, or The initial term of those in such positions shall not be a full four years; it shall commence on or about November 2017 and terminate on June 30, 2020, or~~
- b. ~~July 1, 2022, and On July 1 of each year which is two years after the year of a General Conference. The first term of those in such positions shall commence on or about November 2017 and terminate on June 30, 2022.~~

- 200 4. The Conference Lay Leader and the Chairs or Designates of the Board of Trustees, Council on
 201 Finance and Administration, Committee on Nominations, Board of Ordained Ministry and Annual
 202 Conference Committee shall serve terms as outlined above.
 203 5. Designates of Ethnic Caucuses shall serve terms as outlined above.
 204 6. Designates of Vital Congregations Ministries, Discipleship Ministries, and Justice and Mercy
 205 Ministries shall serve terms as outlined above.
 206 7. Co-Chairs of the DSTs who serve on the ACST as outlined below, shall serve terms as outlined
 207 above.

208 **d. Meetings.** The ACST shall meet at least four (4) times per year. Each meeting shall have a focus
 209 such as analysis and review of the budget, preparation for Annual Conference, leadership development
 210 and learning, and acquiring input for more effective ministry. The schedule and topics of meetings
 211 shall be determined by the co-chairs of ACST in consultation with the Director of Connectional
 212 Ministries.

213 III. District Shepherding Teams (“DST”)

- 214 **a. Responsibilities.** The responsibilities of each DST shall include,
 215 i. Leading as a learning organization in addressing the technical and adaptive, challenges and
 216 opportunities presented to the district.
 217 ii. Coordinating the equipping of local churches and enhancing the connection between local
 218 churches.
 219 1. Ascertaining information, such as,
 220 a. Celebrations and best practices,
 221 b. Challenges and shared needs,
 222 c. Opportunities for shared ministries.
 223 2. Providing or directing local churches to training opportunities suited to the district.
 224 iii. Communicating local needs, challenges, and celebrations to ACST for coordinated resourcing
 225 and sharing.
 226 iv. Communicating vision and ministry priorities of NIC to the district and local churches and
 227 coordinating implementation as best lived out in the district.

228 **b. Membership.**

- 229 **i. Members.** Each DST shall have the following members:

230 *Voice and Vote* (11+ Members)

- 231 • Co-Chair – District Lay Leader
- 232 • Co-Chair – Clergy
- 233 • District Lay Leader(s) (in districts with multiple lay leaders, all shall be members of
 234 the DST; one at a time shall serve as Co-Chair)
- 235 • Board on Church Location and Building, Chair or Designate
- 236 • District Committee on Ordained Ministry, Chair or Designate
- 237 • New Church Development and Revitalization Team (formerly District Strategy
 238 Team), Chair or Designate
- 239 • 3 Lay Members At Large
- 240 • 3 Clergy Members At Large

241 *Voice Only; No Vote* (1 Member)

- 242 • District Superintendent

- 243 **ii. Selection of Members.** Members of each DST shall be selected, as follows:

- 244 1. District Lay Leader(s) shall be chosen per Disciplinary requirements in the ordinary course
 245 of the nominations process.
- 246 2. Chairs of Board on Church Location and Building, Committee on Ordained Ministry and
 247 ~~New~~ Church Development and Revitalization Team (formerly District Strategy Team) shall be
 248 chosen per Disciplinary requirements. In the event that a member of a committee, board or team
 249 is to be designated as the member of the ACST in place of the chair, such committee, board or
 250 team shall adopt its own process for designation.

- 251 3. Clergy Co-Chair shall be selected by the District Lay Leader(s) and District Superintendent.
 252 4. At Large Lay and Clergy Members shall be selected by the District Lay Leader(s) and
 253 District Superintendent.
 254 a. They may represent the particular ministry priorities of each district, e.g., they may
 255 include cluster leaders, Lay Servant Academy directors, representatives from mission
 256 agencies in the district, etc.
 257 b. They may be selected from among recommendations solicited at annual church
 258 conferences or other district entities.

259 **iii. Qualifications and Commitment of Members.** Members of the DST shall be expected to
 260 attend meetings themselves to ensure the cohesion and continuity of the team. As shared
 261 experience contributes to shared visioning and leadership, there is no substitute for attendance.

262 **iv. Terms.**

- 263 1. To ensure reinvigoration of the DST, Members shall be limited to a single term of four (4)
 264 years unless membership derives from a position having different term requirements.
 265 2. To ensure equal representation of the DST co-chairs should be a laity and clergy on the
 266 ACST. ~~at any one time, half the districts shall be represented by the Lay Co-Chair and the other~~
 267 ~~half shall be represented by the Clergy Co-Chair.~~
 268 ~~a. On the initial ACST, through June 30, 2022, the DST representatives shall be:~~
 269 ~~i. Lake North DST Lay Co-Chair~~
 270 ~~ii. Lake South DST Clergy Co-Chair~~
 271 ~~iii. Prairie Central DST Clergy Co-Chair~~
 272 ~~iv. Prairie North DST Clergy Co-Chair~~
 273 ~~v. Prairie South DST Lay Co-Chair~~
 274 ~~b. From July 1, 2022, through June 30, 2026, the DST representatives shall be:~~
 275 ~~i. Lake North DST Clergy Co-Chair~~
 276 ~~ii. Lake South DST Lay Co-Chair~~
 277 ~~iii. Prairie Central DST Lay Co-Chair~~
 278 ~~iv. Prairie North DST Lay Co-Chair~~
 279 ~~v. Prairie South DST Clergy Co-Chair~~
 280 3. To ensure continuity, Members shall have four-year terms commencing either,
 281 a. ~~July 1, 2020, and On July 1 of each year of a General Conference, or The initial term of~~
 282 ~~those in such positions shall not be a full four years; it shall commence on or about~~
 283 ~~November 2017 and terminate on June 30, 2020, or~~
 284 b. ~~July 1, 2022, and On July 1 of each year, which is two years after the year of a General~~
 285 ~~Conference. The first term of those in such positions shall commence on or about November~~
 286 ~~2017 and terminate on June 30, 2022.~~
 287 4. The District Lay Leader(s) and the Chairs of Board on Church Location and Building,
 288 Committee on Ordained Ministry and New Church Development and Revitalization Team
 289 (formerly District Strategy Team) shall serve terms as outlined above.
 290 5. The At Large Lay and Clergy Members shall serve terms as outlined above.

291 **c. Meetings.** Each DST shall meet at least four (4) times per year. The schedule and topics of
 292 meetings shall be determined by each DST.

293 **IV. Diversity of Membership on ACST and DSTs.**

- 294 a. The Committee on Nominations and Bishop shall make diversity of the ACST a primary
 295 consideration in,
 296 i. Appointment of Co-Chairs,
 297 ii. Selection of NIC Lay Leader(s),
 298 iii. Composition of the Board of Trustees, Conference Council on Finance and Administration,
 299 Committee on Nominations, Board of Ordained Ministry and Annual Conference Committee,
 300 which choose or elect Chairs or Designates to serve on the ACST,

- 301 iv. Selection of Designates of Vital Congregations Ministries, Discipleship Ministries, and Justice
- 302 and Mercy Ministries.
- 303 b. Each District Superintendent and District Lay Leader(s) shall make diversity in each DST a
- 304 primary consideration in,
- 305 i. Selection of District Lay Leader(s) and Lay Co-Chair,
- 306 ii. Selection of Clergy Co-Chair,
- 307 iii. ~~Rotation of DST Co-Chairs onto the ACST,~~
- 308 iv. Selection of Chairs of Board on Church Location and Building, District Committee on
- 309 Ordained Ministry and New Church Development and Revitalization Team (formerly District
- 310 Strategy Team),
- 311 v. Selection of At Large Lay and Clergy Members.

312 **V. Evaluation of Structure.** The organizational structure of ACST and DSTs shall be subject to formal
 313 evaluation at Annual Conferences ~~in 2019, 2020 and quadrennially thereafter.~~ This evaluation of structure
 314 shall be separate from annual reports on the substantive work of the ACST provided for above.

- 315 a. The evaluation of structure shall consider features of the ACST and DSTs or their objectives, such
- 316 as,
- 317 i. Diversity of the ACST and DSTs
- 318 ii. Quality of Communication by ACST and DSTs
- 319 iii. Flexibility and Adaptability of ACST and DSTs to particular issues or events
- 320 iv. Improving Clergy Morale
- 321 v. Equipping Local Churches
- 322 vi. Strengthening the Connection
- 323 vii. Streamlining committees and enhancing effectiveness of leadership structure
- 324 viii. Recruitment of new leaders from across the NIC
- 325 b. The evaluation of structure shall poll groups such as,
- 326 i. Local congregations and faith communities
- 327 ii. NIC committees, councils and boards
- 328 c. The evaluation of structure shall be conducted via a mechanism such as,
- 329 i. Electronic Survey
- 330 ii. Listening Sessions

331 **VI. Report to Annual Conference** ~~**Initial Reports to Annual Conference and Rotation of**~~
 332 ~~**Membership**~~

333 The ACST shall present an annual report that offers a clear overview of its accomplishments, current
 334 work, and positive developments within our conference. The report should highlight collaboration with
 335 the District Shepherding Teams (DST) and provide an opportunity for members to the Annual Conference
 336 to offer feedback. The ACST may submit legislation to the Annual Conference, as needed.

337 ~~**a. Annual Conference 2019 and 2020 and quadrennially thereafter**~~

- 338 ~~• Report by ACST to Annual Conference regarding assessment of structure;~~
- 339 ~~• Opportunity for feedback from Annual Conference;~~
- 340 ~~• Possible submission of legislation proposing adaptation of structure. Such adaptive legislation~~
- 341 ~~may be proposed at any annual conference.~~

342 ~~**b. July 2020. Rotation of Membership.**~~

- 343 ~~• The first Chair of the ACST shall rotate off the ACST after four years terms. The first Vice Chair~~
- 344 ~~shall become Chair and a new Vice Chair shall be appointed by the bishop.~~
- 345 ~~• The Conference Lay Leader and Chairs or Designates of Board of Trustees, Council on Finance~~
- 346 ~~and Administration, Committee on Nominations, Board of Ordained Ministry and Annual~~
- 347 ~~Conference Committee shall change per Disciplinary requirements in the ordinary course of the~~
- 348 ~~nominations process.~~
- 349 ~~• Designates of the Ethnic Caucuses/Ministries shall rotate off the ACST and be replaced by~~
- 350 ~~newly selected Designates after four year terms.~~

351 ~~— Designates of Vital Congregations Ministries, Discipleship Ministries, and Justice and Mercy~~
 352 ~~Ministries shall rotate off the ACST and be replaced by Designates newly selected by their~~
 353 ~~respective Constituent Groups after four year term.~~
 354 ~~— Co Chairs representing DSTs on the ACST shall rotate~~
 355 ~~— The District Lay Leader(s) and the Chairs or Designates of Board on Church Location and~~
 356 ~~Building, District Committee on Ordained Ministry and New Church Development and~~
 357 ~~Revitalization Team (formerly District Strategy Team) shall change per Disciplinary requirements~~
 358 ~~in the ordinary course of the nominations process.~~
 359 ~~— At Large Lay and Clergy Members of the DSTs shall rotate off the DST and be replaced by~~
 360 ~~newly selected Members.~~
 361 **e. July 2022. Rotation of Membership.**
 362 ~~• The second Chair of the ACST shall rotate off the ACST. The Vice Chair shall become Chair and~~
 363 ~~a new Vice Chair shall be appointed by the bishop.~~
 364 ~~• Designates of Vital Congregations Ministries, Discipleship Ministries, and Justice and Mercy~~
 365 ~~Ministries shall rotate off the ACST and be replaced by Designates newly selected by their~~
 366 ~~respective Constituent Groups~~
 367 ~~• Co Chairs representing DSTs on the ACST shall rotate. Those DSTs previously represented by~~
 368 ~~the Lay Co Chair shall begin to be represented by the Clergy C Chair and vice versa.~~
 369 ~~• At Large Lay and Clergy Members of the DSTs shall rotate off the DST and be replaced by~~
 370 ~~newly selected Members.~~

371 **RATIONALE:**

372 The 2008 United Methodist Book of Discipline created flexibility for annual conference organization.
 373 Conferences were encouraged to streamline structures to create relevant, vital program ministries. In
 374 2018, the Annual Conference approved the incorporation of the ACST and DST, and in 2020, the ACST
 375 formed a task force to reorganize the conference's program areas. This task force reviewed the program
 376 ministries and recommended the retention of some areas, the consolidation of others, and the
 377 incorporation of areas that had become inactive or had a focus addressed by other existing boards,
 378 committees, and task forces. They then organized these committees, boards, task forces, and groups in
 379 alignment with the purpose, mission and core values of the annual conference.
 380

381 In 2024, ACST developed and began implementing a new role that has helped to understand the purpose
 382 of this group which is included in this document, and now it is an appropriate time to update certain areas,
 383 delete inactive group or committees and reduce redundancy. Making these adjustments ensures that the
 384 structure reflects the realities of the ACST's current work while strengthening its sustainability and clarity
 385 for the years to come.