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# BLESSED AND BROKEN

**PACIFIC NORTHWEST  
ANNUAL CONFERENCE**

APPROVED LEGISLATIVE  
**ACTIONS**

J. ACTIONS

This section contains the perfected versions of legislation approved by the 2025 Pacific Northwest Conference when it gathered for its annual session. Original versions of the legislation, and the rationale which accompanied them, can be found in the Pre-Conference Handbook (PCH). At the time of printing, the PCH was available to download at: <https://www.pnwumc.org/ac2025/downloads>.

CONFERENCE ADVANCE SPECIALS (PCH PETITION #1)

**BE IT RESOLVED**, the following agencies and projects which are initiated, developed and/or supported within the Pacific Northwest Conference be designated as Conference Advance Specials and be given support through the second-mile giving by churches of the PNW AC 2025-2025 Conference Advance Special Applications.

- 1. Atlantic Street Center #301
- 2. Tacoma Community House #302
- 3. Alaska Conference Support #335
- 4. Central Washington Justice for our Neighbors #339
- 5. PNW Conference Camping & Retreat Ministries:
  - Camp Indianola #341
  - Twinlow Camp #343
  - Lazy F Camp #344
  - Ocean Park #345
- 6. PNW Disaster Relief/Early Response #352

MINIMUM COMPENSATION (PCH PETITION #2)

**RESOLVED**, that the minimum compensation schedule for full-time service set by the Annual Conference for the Calendar year 2025 will be \$52,807.

CONFERENCE TREASURER & ASSISTANT TREASURER (PCH PETITION #4)

**BE IT RESOLVED**, in accordance with the *2020/24 Book of Discipline*, ¶619, the Conference Council on Finance and Administration nominates Brant Henshaw as Conference Treasurer and Sara Goetze as Assistant Treasurer for the remainder of the quadrennium.

**MOVING ALLOWANCE (PCH PETITION #3)**

The Moving Allowance will be reimbursed through the local church, which will provide a W-2 to the pastor, as this allowance has been taxable since 2018.

**BE IT RESOLVED**, the recommended moving allowance schedule for the 2025-2026 appointment year is:

- A. Intra-conference up to \$2,400 (Rule XI, Sec. 2(a)).
- B. Retiring minister up to \$2,400 (Rule XI, Sec. 2(b)).
- C. Surviving spouse up to \$2,400 (Rule XI, Sec 2(b)).
- D. Minister on Disability Leave, up to \$2,400 (Rule XI, Sec. 2(b)).
- E. Seminary students returning for local church appointment will be reimbursed on the basis of receipts for moving expenses, including meals and lodging en route, as approved by the District Superintendent with the following dollar limits, based on the one-way mileage from the seminary to the appointment (Rule XI, Sec. 2(c)):
  - Over 2,500 miles – up to \$5,000
  - 1,501 to 2,500 miles – up to \$4,500
  - 1,001 to 1,500 miles – up to \$4,100
  - 801 to 1,000 miles – up to \$3,400
  - 501 to 800 miles – up to \$2,900
  - 500 miles or less – up to \$2,400
- F. Candidates for ministry or ministerial members (including paragraph 337.1) transferring in shall be reimbursed up to the seminary students' limits (E) with the provision that the Cabinet may authorize expenditures of up to 150% of the seminary student limit (Rule XI, Sec. 2(c)).

**PAST SERVICE PENSION RATE (PCH PETITION #5)**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that effective January 1, 2026, the Ministerial Pension Rate and the Local Pastors Pension Rate shall be \$967 and that Supplement One to the Clergy Retirement Security Program be so amended.

**DISABILITY BENEFITS (PCH PETITION #6)**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Pacific Northwest Annual Conference recommends that the Wespath Benefits and Investments provide Comprehensive Protection Plan Disability Benefits for the Conference year 2025-2026 only if approved for CPP disability benefits by Wespath for *Robert Henre, Mark Kennedy, Gloria Kymn, Paula McCutcheon, Don Shipley, and Cheryl Wuensch*.

RETIREMENT ANNUITY RESPONSIBILITY (PCH PETITION #7)

RESOLVED, that the Pacific Northwest Conference accept the applicable annuity responsibility for the following persons retiring at the 2025 session of the Annual Conference as of 3/12/2025:

Name	Disc. ¶	Age	Appt. Years	Effective Date
Bradley Beeman	358.2(c)	70 and 1 months	33	7/1/2025
Pamela Brokaw	358.1	72 and 0 months	11.75	7/1/2025
Kathleen Hartgraves	358.2(c)	65 and 1 months	20.5	7/1/2025
Charles Lawson	358.2(c)	71 and 10 months	13	7/1/2025
Jeffrey Mullinix	358.2(c)(d)	65 and 10 months	16.79	3/15/2025
Thomas Peterson	358.2(b)	62 and 5 months	36	7/1/2025
Cynthia Roberts	358.2(c)	69 and 1 months	20	7/1/2025
Jo-Dene Romeijn-Stout	358.2(c)	67 and 10 months	38	7/1/2025
Linda Weistaner	358.2(b)	64 and 2 months	31	7/1/2025

RETIREMENT GRANTS (PCH PETITION #8)

RESOLVED, that the following persons receive grants in lieu of pension from the Pacific Northwest Conference:

PERSONS RECEIVING GRANTS IN  
THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST ANNUAL CONFERENCE  
THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
2025 - 2026 Pension Grant Schedule

Name (age by end of year)	Service in Conference	Year Eligible	Applicable Pension Rate	Grant \$	Payment Period
Wanda L. Butler (surviving spouse of Ralph Butler 70%) (100)	25.0	1983	188	3,290.04	7/1/25-6/30/26
Marilyn Calkins (surviving spouse of Robert Calkins 70%) (89)	12.0	1991	265.93	1,304.28	7/1/25-6/30/26
Richard L. Gossett (81)	7.0	2009	578.58	1,417.56	7/1/25-6/30/26
Marisol Harper (surviving spouse of Craig Harper 70%) (92)	6.75	1993	287.63	458.76	7/1/25-6/30/26
Donald L. Jeter (92)	11.5	1998	349.95	2,314.08	7/1/25-6/30/26
Dewey Knowles (95)	6.5	1996	323.55	683.52	7/1/25-6/30/26
John C. Shirk (93)	5.0	1998	349.95	437.40	7/1/25-6/30/26
			\$	9,905.64	

**REQUEST FOR BUDGET & SALARY TRANSPARENCY (PCH PETITION #9)**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, before a vote of the 2026 Pacific Northwest Annual Conference budget and for every year beyond 2026, we require the details of all exempt conference staff and superintendent salaries.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Annual Conference is given clear communication regarding the portion of those salaries for which the Pacific Northwest Annual Conference is responsible in a shared ministry model.

**DIRECT CONFERENCE TRUSTEES TO OFFER CLOSED CHURCH PROPERTIES TO UNITED METHODIST CHURCHES (PCH PETITION #10)**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Annual Conference of the PNW shall provide direction to the Annual Conference Board of Trustees regarding the disposition of property of a closed local church in accordance with ¶2549.2c of the *2020/2024 Book of Discipline*. This direction includes the following:

1. The Annual Conference Board of Trustees shall not sell, lease or rent closed local church properties to a United Methodist Church or agency, but using an equity lens may transfer title of the property of a closed local church to an organized United Methodist Church or agency, or enter into a relationship of occupancy by a United Methodist Church or agency, that does not involve selling, leasing or renting of the property.
2. Once six months have passed since a church closure vote is taken at annual conference, if no United Methodist church or agency requests the use of a closed United Methodist Church property, the Board of Trustees shall explore other options for the disposition of the property.
3. The Annual Conference Board of Trustees shall require a one-year trial period of occupancy of a closed church property by a United Methodist church or agency before acting on the transfer of the title of the property. When the receiving church's ministry plan and vision requires property renovations, demolition, or construction prior to occupancy, the required one-year trial period may be waived by the Board of Trustees.
4. After the one-year trial period, the United Methodist Church or agency, in consultation with the district superintendent and the district Board of Church Location and Building, may submit to the Annual Conference Board of Trustees a request to transfer the title of the property to them. The United Methodist Church or agency shall also submit to the Annual Conference Board of Trustees a ministry plan and vision detailing how their use of the property would further the strategic goals of the Pacific Northwest Conference.

- 5. The Board of Trustees shall transfer the title of the property to the new United Methodist church or agency, or report to the Bishop and the Cabinet reasons for denying the transfer of title.
- 6. If the new United Methodist church or agency does not want to hold the title of the closed church property but desires to remain as occupants of the building, the Board of Trustees shall enter into a written agreement with the new United Methodist church or agency defining the responsibilities of each party for maintenance and repair of the building. The United Methodist Church or agency shall also submit to the Annual Conference Board of Trustees a ministry plan and vision detailing how their use of the property would further the strategic goals of the Pacific Northwest Conference.
- 7. The transferred title of the closed church property to a United Methodist church or agency shall include the Trust Clause as stated in ¶2503 of the *2020/2024 Book of Discipline*.

**CREATION OF LGBTQIA+ MINISTRIES TEAM (PCH PETITION #11)**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Pacific Northwest Annual Conference calls on our Office of Connectional Ministries to create a conference-level LGBTQIA+ Ministries Team for the purpose of:

- 1. Actively supporting the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Intersex, and Asexual (LGBTQIA+) laity, clergy, and candidates for licensed/ordained ministry in the Pacific Northwest Annual Conference with community-building, faith and leadership development, solidarity, and advocacy.
- 2. Centering and amplifying the voices and experiences of the LGBTQIA+ community, especially those who have been marginalized by church and society, most notably, transgender and Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) persons.
- 3. Monitoring Annual Conference committees and policies, as well as the status and needs of candidates and clergy under appointment to ensure justice and equity on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, and expression, and to report findings to the Annual Conference.
- 4. Curating, creating, and sharing resources to equip local churches for:
  - a. relationship building and continuing education
  - b. meaningful ministry with and for LGBTQIA+ church and community members
- 5. Collaborating with ministry-specific areas, particularly children’s ministry, youth ministry, and campus ministry in the desire to safely and most effectively be in ministry with and for LGBTQIA+ people of all ages.

Be it further resolved that the LGBTQIA+ Ministries Team will be established within 3 months of annual conference adjournment, hold its first meeting in 2025, and include:

1. LGBTQIA+ persons that make up more than half of the total membership
2. Intentional diversity of age
  - a. At least 2 members under the age of 25
  - b. ⅓ membership under 35
  - c. ⅓ membership 36 to 55
  - d. ⅓ membership 56 and up
3. Intentional diversity throughout all genders
4. Intentional diversity throughout all races and ethnicities
5. Lay and clergy representatives from each district
6. Members with established leadership in the area of LGBTQIA+ justice and inclusion

Be it further resolved that the LGBTQIA+ Ministries Team shall be fully included in all future annual conference processes related to ensuring an appropriate budget, representation on other committees, reporting to the annual conference, and ongoing membership-based on the above criteria."

### **CONDUCT ACCESSIBILITY AUDIT ANNUALLY AT CHARGE CONFERENCE (PCH PETITION #12)**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that all local churches conduct an accessibility audit annually during their charge conference process, noting both the good work and the existing barriers and setting at least one goal for improving accessibility over the coming year.

### **AMEND MEMBERSHIP RULE FOR COMMITTEE ON THE FULL PARTICIPATION OF PERSONS LIVING WITH DISABILITIES (PCH PETITION #13)**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Pacific Northwest Conference amend Conference Rule VI Conference Agencies, Section 1 - Organization, Membership and Responsibilities, subsection (c) Other Conference Agencies, subsection (4) Standing Committees, subsection (d) Committee on the Full Participation of Persons Living with Disabilities (§653) by deleting "Four persons elected by the Conference" and amending "three persons" to "no less than seven persons, including one chair." The section would read: "~~Four persons elected by the Conference; three persons~~ No less than seven persons, including one chair named by the Committee."

**ENCOURAGING FOSSIL FUEL DIVESTMENT FOR  
DENOMINATIONAL FUNDS (PCH PETITION #14)**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Pacific Northwest Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church directs the Conference Treasurer’s Office to send a letter by August 1, 2025 to each member of Wespeth’s board of directors (as listed at <https://www.wespeth.org/leadership>), Andrew Hendren, the Executive Director of Wespeth, and cc Moses Kumar, the General Secretary of the General Council on Finance and Administration. This letter shall express gratitude for the exemplary performance of Wespeth’s fossil free funds in which our Annual Conference has been invested since 2017. In addition, the letter should point out that we are eagerly awaiting the lifestage investment option that includes funds without fossil fuels in their portfolios and that we would welcome earlier action than the 2026 release date for the lifestage managed fossil free fund that has been proposed. Further, the letter should make these requests:

- That any proposal for changes to Paragraph 717 should add fossil fuels as an excluded investment.
- That the Wespeth Board should prayerfully consider and vote on the divestment of Wespeth’s own unrestricted and restricted assets from fossil fuels.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that as soon as the Lifestage managed investment option that excludes fossil fuel investments becomes available, the Pacific Northwest Conference Board of Pensions will invite our Wespeth representative to present a workshop for investors in the PNW to inform them of the new option and how to make changes in investment portfolios to take advantage of the option.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that when the Lifestage managed investment option that excludes fossil fuel companies becomes available, the Pacific Northwest Conference of The United Methodist Church encourages all clergy and laity with retirement savings in Wespeth funds to move their investments to fossil fuel free options.

**AFFIRMING GENERAL CONFERENCE DECISIONS  
ABOUT CREATION CARE AND JUSTICE (PCH PETITION #15)**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the people of the Pacific Northwest Annual Conference affirm the positions taken by the General Conference relating to Creation Care and Justice and commit to living by them in our own ministries.