A Comprehensive Comparison Chart UMC, Transitional GMC, WCA Proposals

By Thomas Lambrecht - Published September 1, 2021

How will the Global Methodist Church (GMC) will differ from what we now know in United Methodism with respect to its governing documents? This comparison chart will show how the transitional GMC will be alike or different from the current UM Church. Then it will also look at the proposals developed by the Wesleyan Covenant Association (WCA) as to how the GMC might be structured after the transition. Elements of the WCA proposed *Book of Doctrines and Discipline* will be legislative proposals to the convening General Conference of the GMC and subject to its approval. While the transitional GMC makes some changes to the basic governance as it exists in the UM Church, it also keeps a fair amount of continuity with the current UM governance in order to make for an easier transition and to ensure that the members of the GMC make the more critical decisions on changes at its convening General Conference. In some areas, the *Transitional Book of Doctrines and Discipline* develops details more fully because they are necessary for the immediate functioning of the church. The convening General Conference of the GMC may make more far-reaching decisions about how the new denomination will function into the medium and long term. This comparison is accurate as of August 3, 2021, the date of the most recent *Transitional Book of Doctrines and Discipline* of the GMC and the WCA proposed *Book of Doctrines and Discipline*. Refinement is ongoing, so some provisions may change in the future, and all provisions are subject to the decisions of the convening GMC General Conference, as well as subsequent General Conferences.

	Current UMC BOD	Transitional GMC BDD	WCA Proposed BDD
DOCTRINE			
Doctrinal Standards	Initially (1968) viewed as "non-	Mandatory for all clergy to	Mandatory for all clergy to
	juridical," today not often	preach and maintain	preach and maintain
	enforced		
Apostles Creed	Referenced, but not spelled out	Foundational Documents spelled	Foundational Documents spelled
Nicene Creed	in BOD. Used for worship, but no	out in BDD expressing orthodox	out in BDD expressing orthodox
Definition of Chalcedon	doctrinal standing	Christian teaching	Christian teaching
Articles of Religion	Stated Doctrinal Standards	Doctrinal Standards that define	Doctrinal Standards that define
Confession of Faith	seldom referenced; "deemed	the doctrinal boundaries of the	the doctrinal boundaries of the
	congruent" but not reconciled to	GMC	GMC
	each other		
Wesley's 44 Standard Sermons	Stated Doctrinal standards but	Normative Wesleyan Standards	Normative Wesleyan Standards
Wesley's Notes Upon the New	not specified in BOD	that define Methodist teaching	that define Methodist teaching
Testament			

General Rules	Stated Doctrinal Standards	Spells out explicit expectations of Methodist discipleship	Spells out explicit expectations of Methodist discipleship
Holy Scripture	"Primary source and criterion for Christian doctrine" In practice, can be modified or reinterpreted by other sources	Primary rule and authority for faith, morals, and service, against which all other authorities must be measured	Primary rule and authority for faith, morals, and service, against which all other authorities must be measured
Restrictive Rule	Protects Articles of Religion, Confession of Faith, General Rules, episcopacy, right to trial and appeal, use of income from Publishing House	Protects Articles of Religion and Confession of Faith, requires 75 percent vote to change	Protects entire doctrine section, requires two-thirds vote to change
Liturgical Norms and Guidelines	Book of Worship	Not specifically addressed – Assumes continued use of Book of Worship and other resources during transition period	To be developed, approved by convening General Conference
SOCIAL PRINCIPLES/WITNESS			
Social Principles, Resolutions	Not binding, instructive and persuasive	Require 75 percent majority, binding on clergy and congregations (implies there will be fewer and more general statements)	Require 75 percent majority, binding on clergy and congregations (implies there will be fewer and more general statements) The convening General Conference shall determine whether to establish a task force to develop specific principles for our social witness that provide counsel as to how biblical principles may be applied to social and cultural contexts
Purpose	Not church law but intended to be instructive and persuasive in prophetic spirit	Consensus vision of faithful discipleship transcending cultures	Consensus vision of faithful discipleship transcending cultures
Length	61 pages plus <i>Book of Resolutions</i> (873 pages)	2 pages	2 pages

only with the covenant of monogamous, heterosexual marriage (Likely to be changed in a post-separation UMC) Homosexuality Affirms sacred worth of all, God's grace available to all. Does not condone practice of homosexuality; considers the practice incompatible with Christian teaching. Affirms affirmed as it is exercised within the legal and spiritual covenant of a loving and monogamous marriage between one man and one woman No explicit reference to homosexuality; rejects pornography, polygamy and promiscuity; commits church to be a safe place of refuge, hospitality, and healing for all	Abortion	Balances sanctity of unborn life with life and well-being of mother and child; rejects abortion as means of birth control or gender selection (likely to be changed in a post-separation UMC)	Believing in the sacredness of all life, resists the practice of abortion except in the cases of tragic conflicts of life against life. Do not accept abortion as a means of birth control or gender selection. All Christians to support those women facing unintended pregnancies without adequate care, counsel, or resources.	Believing in the sacredness of all life, resists the practice of abortion except in the cases of tragic conflicts of life against life. Do not accept abortion as a means of birth control or gender selection. All Christians to support those women facing unintended pregnancies without adequate care, counsel, or resources.
grace available to all. Does not condone practice of homosexuality; considers the practice incompatible with Christian teaching. (Likely to be changed in a post-separation UMC) Marriage Defined as a legal and spiritual covenant of a loving and monogamous relationship between one man and one woman Momosexuality; rejects pornography, polygamy and promiscuity; commits church to be a safe place of refuge, hospitality, and healing for all experiencing sexual brokenness. Separation UMC) Defined as a legal and spiritual covenant of a loving and monogamous relationship between one man and one woman Woman Marriage Defined as a legal and spiritual covenant of a loving and monogamous relationship between one man and one woman Momosexuality; rejects pornography, polygamy and promiscuity; commits church to be a safe place of refuge, hospitality, and healing for all experiencing sexual brokenness. Separation UMC) Defined as a legal and spiritual covenant of a loving and monogamous relationship between one man and one woman Momosexuality, and healing for all experiencing sexual brokenness. Separation UMC) Marriage Marr	Human Sexuality	only with the covenant of monogamous, heterosexual marriage (Likely to be changed	Human sexuality is a gift of God, affirmed as it is exercised within the legal and spiritual covenant of a loving and monogamous marriage between one man and	Human sexuality is a gift of God, affirmed as it is exercised within the legal and spiritual covenant of a loving and monogamous marriage between one man and
expressed in love, support, commitment, and shared fidelity between a man and a woman (Likely to be changed in a post-separation UMC) LOCAL CHURCH Mission of the Church Make disciples of Christ for the transformation of the world Make disciples of the world Make disciples of Jesus Christ who worship passionately, love extravagantly, and witness boldly covenant of a loving and monogamous relationship between one man and one woman To "spread scriptural holiness across the land"	Homosexuality	grace available to all. Does not condone practice of homosexuality; considers the practice incompatible with Christian teaching. (Likely to be changed in a post-	homosexuality; rejects pornography, polygamy and promiscuity; commits church to be a safe place of refuge, hospitality, and healing for all	homosexuality; rejects pornography, polygamy and promiscuity; commits church to be a safe place of refuge,
Mission of the Church Make disciples of Christ for the transformation of the world Make disciples of Jesus Christ who worship passionately, love extravagantly, and witness boldly	Marriage	expressed in love, support, commitment, and shared fidelity between a man and a woman (Likely to be changed in a post-	covenant of a loving and monogamous relationship between one man and one	covenant of a loving and monogamous relationship between one man and one
transformation of the world who worship passionately, love extravagantly, and witness boldly	LOCAL CHURCH			
	Mission of the Church	·	who worship passionately, love	
	Membership Categories	Baptized and Professing	Baptized and Professing	Preparatory and Professing

Meaning and means of Baptism	Not stated in BOD	Expounded in BDD	Expounded in BDD
Rebaptism	No	No	No
Baptism of infants and children	Yes	Yes	Yes
Confirmation	Yes	Yes	Yes
Accountable discipleship groups	Encouraged of each member	Expected of each member	Expected of each member
Removal of inactive members	After 3 years	After 2 years	After 3 years
Local Church Organization	Charge/Church Conference	Charge/Church Conference	Charge/Church Conference
	Church Council	Church Council	Church Council
	Nominations and Leadership	Flexible structure for all other	Flexible structure for all other
	Development Committee	functions below:	functions below:
	Pastor-Parish Relations	Nominations and Leadership	Nominations and Leadership
	Committee	Development Committee	Development Committee
	Committee on Finance	Pastor-Parish Relations	Pastor-Parish Relations
	Board of Trustees	Committee	Committee
	Other committees as desired	Committee on Finance	Committee on Finance
		Board of Trustees	Stewardship Committee
		Other committees as desired	Board of Trustees
			Other committees as desired
General Church and Annual	General church budget adopted	1.5 percent of local operating	Not yet determined
Conference Apportionments/	by General Conference, allocated	income for general church	
Connectional Funding	to annual conferences by	operations.	
	formula. Annual conference	5 percent of local operating	
	calculates local apportionment	income for annual conference	
	amount by formula. Generally 7 -	operations for churches aligning	
	15 percent of local budget	separately from their annual	
		conference.	
		Annual conferences that vote to	
		align with the GMC set local	
		percentage for annual	
		conference operations and must	
		reduce connectional funding for	
		annual conference operations to	
		not more than 10 percent of local	
		operating income within five	
		years of aligning with the GMC.	

Fidelity of Churches	Not stated	Expected of all churches; allow	Not stated
		for involuntary disaffiliation if	
		necessary for churches teaching	
		doctrines or engaging in practices	
		contrary to the GMC BDD	
Closing of Churches	If local church no longer serves	If local church advances doctrines	Not stated
	its purpose or is no longer used	or practices not in conformity	
	for United Methodist worship.	with GMC BDD or withholds	
	By annual conference action and	connectional funding.	
	by action of the bishop (with	Process of engagement required.	
	consent of cabinet and others)	May be involuntarily disaffiliated	
		by 2/3 vote of Transitional	
		Leadership Council	
Church Property	Held in trust for the	Owned by local church	Owned by local church
	denomination	Pension liabilities owed where	Pension liabilities owed where
		applicable, secured by a lien on	applicable, secured by a lien on
		the property	the property
Voluntary Disaffiliation of Local	2/3 vote of congregation	Majority vote of congregation	Not stated
Church Retaining Property	Majority vote of annual	No payments except pension	
	conference	liabilities where applicable,	
	Payment of 2 years' apportion-	secured by a lien on the property	
	ments and pension liability		
MINISTRY			
Certified Laity in Ministry	Certified lay servants, certified	Combines all into one category	Combines all into one category
	lay speakers, certified lay	called certified lay ministers –	called certified lay ministers –
	ministers, deaconesses, home	can specialize to serve in any of	can specialize to serve in any of
	missioners, lay missioners	the previous areas	the previous areas
Orders of Ministry	Ordained deacon a separate	Order of deacon contains both	Order of deacon contains both
	order from ordained elder – all	permanent deacons and those	permanent deacons and those
	deacons permanent	going on to elder's orders (nested	going on to elder's orders (nested
		orders: laity—deacons—elders)	orders: laity—deacons—elders)
Sequence of Ordination	Candidacy – Commissioning –	Candidacy – Ordination as	Candidacy – Ordination as
	Ordination (Deacon or Elder) and	Deacon – Ordination as Elder (for	Deacon – Ordination as Elder (for
	Full Connection	those called to elder's orders)	those called to elder's orders)
Length of Candidacy	Minimum of one year, maximum	Minimum of six months – based	Minimum of six months – based
	of twelve years	on completing requirements	on completing requirements

Educational Requirements for First Level	For Provisional Membership/ Commissioning: Bachelor's Degree One-half of a Master's Degree (36-53 credit hours for MDiv) OR Completed Basic and Advanced Course of Study (60+ credit hours)	For Deacon's Orders: 5-6 courses in prescribed subjects After ordination, complete 4-5 additional courses within 7 years	For Deacon's Orders: 5-6 courses in prescribed subjects After ordination, complete 4-5 additional courses within 7 years
Educational Requirements for Second Level	For Full Membership/Ordination: MDiv or master's degree in specialized ministry	For Elder's Orders: 6 courses in prescribed subjects in addition to deacon's level After ordination, complete 4 additional courses within 7 years	For Elder's Orders: 6 courses in prescribed subjects in addition to deacon's level After ordination, complete 4 additional courses within 7 years
Length of First Level	Provisional members for at least two years following completion of second level education, maximum of eight years	Two years' service as a Deacon, including the length of time to complete first level education and education for elder's orders	Two years' service as a Deacon, including the length of time to complete first level education and education for elder's orders All requirements must be completed within 7 years of declaring candidacy for elder
Rights and privileges of First Level	For Provisional Members: Vote on all matters except constitutional amendments and clergy ordination May not serve as GC or JC delegates Sacramental authority within the site of appointed ministry	For Deacons: Full voice and vote on all matters except the ordination of elders Sacramental authority within the site of appointed ministry	For Deacons: Full voice and vote on all matters except the ordination of elders Sacramental authority within the site of appointed ministry
Financing Theological Education	Grants, loans, tuition reduction available, particularly at UM seminaries	Theological education fund to make loans to students that are forgivable (20 percent for each year of service to the church)	Theological education fund to make loans to students that are forgivable (20 percent for each year of service to the church)
Licensed Local Pastors (long- term, non-ordained)	Yes	No, transitioned to ordained Deacons	No, transitioned to ordained Deacons

Lay Supply Pastors	Yes	Yes – must be ordained Deacon	Yes – must be ordained Deacon
		within three years, no	within three years, no
		sacramental authority	sacramental authority
Retirement for Clergy	Mandatory retirement at age 72	No mandatory retirement, may	No mandatory retirement, may
		choose senior status (releases	choose retired status (releases
		one from obligation to accept an appointment)	one from obligation to accept an appointment)
Rights of Retired Clergy	Full members of annual	Full members of annual	Retired clergy under
	conference with voice and vote	conference with voice and vote	appointment have voice and vote
	until death	for 7 years following choice of	at annual conference, may serve
		senior status, or if serving at least	as GC or JC delegates
		¼ time appointment	Retired clergy not under
		After initial 7 years, senior clergy	appointment have voice but not
		not under appointment have	vote, may not serve as delegates
		voice but not vote, may not serve	
		as delegates	
SUPERINTENDENCY			
Bishops	Elected by jurisdictional or	Election process not stated	Two candidates nominated by
	central conference for life (U.S.	Term of office to be determined	each annual conference, GC
	and some central conferences) or	by General Conference, uniform	elects pool of potential bishops
	for term determined by central	for all bishops	at least as many as the number
	conference	Transitional Leadership Council	of annual conferences
		appoints president pro tempore	Term of office = 12 years' service
		in new annual conferences that	maximum
		have no bishop	
Deployment of Bishops	Deployed by jurisdictional or	Assigned as necessary by	Annual conference episcopacy
	central conference episcopacy	Transitional Leadership Council	committee conducts search from
	committee, service of 4-12 years	during transitional period	episcopal pool, selection affirmed
	in one episcopal area		by Council of Bishops and
			General Episcopacy Committee

Compensation for Bishops	Salary and benefits set by GCFA, paid by Episcopal Fund from general church apportionments	Salary and benefits set by Transitional Leadership Council, paid by annual conference (U.S.) or by partnership with U.S. annual conferences (non-U.S.)	Guidelines for salary and benefits set by General Episcopacy Committee. Actual salary and benefits set by Annual Conference Episcopacy Committee and paid by individual annual conference.
District Superintendents	Appointed by the bishop, 6-year term, 12-year limit with 2-year extension possible	Presiding Elder appointed by the bishop in consultation with cabinet and district leaders Term of office to be determined by the convening General Conference	Bishop selects one Presiding Elder of three candidates elected by the district to be served. Serves at the pleasure of the bishop, no more than 12 years. May simultaneously serve as local church pastor or be retired. Recommended district of 20-30 churches
Appointment Process	Bishop and cabinet appoint, after consultation with clergy and P/SPR Committee	Maintain existing appointments during transition if possible Bishop or president pro tempore makes appointment after extensive consultation with clergy and P/SPR Committee, including feedback on fit from clergy and P/SPRC and rationale from bishop for the appointment	Church council decides whether to do its own search or request candidates from the bishop. Transition team (larger than P/SPRC) manages transition, interviews candidates, makes final recommendation. Approval of bishop, presiding elder, transition team, and clergy needed to set appointment Candidates interviewed must include at least one female and one cross-cultural clergy
Guaranteed Appointment	Yes	No – written rationale given when no appointment made	No

Ecumenical Relationships	World Council of Churches National Council of Churches World Methodist Council Pan-Methodist Commission Covenant relationships with other denominations Participation in other ecumenical bodies	Commission to explore organic union with other Wesleyan denominations or associations of churches. Membership in World Methodist Council. Explore membership in other Wesleyan associations. Affiliated covenant relationships and partnership with other denominations in mutually agreed ministry	Not developed
CONFERENCES			
Adaptability of <i>Book of Discipline</i>	Central conferences can adapt certain parts of the <i>Discipline</i> to fit legal and cultural situation	Book of Doctrines and Discipline is not adaptable unless a particular provision states that it may be adapted	Book of Doctrines and Discipline is not adaptable unless a particular provision states that it may be adapted
Composition of General Conference	Equal numbers of clergy and lay delegates elected by annual conferences, apportioned by General Conference secretary 600 to 1,000 delegates	Equal numbers of clergy and lay delegates elected by annual conferences and newly formed conferences, apportioned by Transitional Leadership Council	Equal numbers of clergy and lay delegates elected by annual or regional conferences proportional to membership 200 to 700 delegates
Church Structure	_		
Governing Body	General Conference – delegates elected by annual conferences	Transitional Leadership Council – current TLC to expand as new annual conferences are added and formed	General Conference – delegates elected by annual conferences
General Agency Structures	Councils, Boards, Commissions, Committees, Other	Transitional Commissions	Commissions
Members elected by	Jurisdictional Conference, Council of Bishops	Transitional Leadership Council	General Conference
Agency Structures	Prescribed by General Conference	Determined by each Commission	Determined by each Commission
Prescribed Membership	1/3 clergy, 1/3 laymen, 1/3 laywomen recommended, inclusion of mandated categories	Based on gifts and expertise, inclusiveness encouraged	Based on gifts, training, and experience, inclusiveness encouraged

Term on Agency	Two four-year terms	None specified	Two six-year terms
Mandated Agencies	Connectional Table	None mandated, suggested	Evangelism, Missions, and Church
	Council on Finance and	Transitional Commissions:	Planting
	Administration	Evangelism, Missions, and Church	Discipleship, Doctrine, and Just
	Board of Church and Society	Planting	Ministry
	Board of Discipleship	Discipleship, Doctrine, and Just	Higher Education and Ministry
	Board of Global Ministries	Ministry	Communications
	Board of Higher Education and	Ministry	Finance, Administration,
	Ministry	Communications	Pensions, and Benefits
	Board of Pension and Health	Finance, Administration,	Connectional Council
	Benefits	Pensions, and Benefits	General Episcopacy Committee
	United Methodist Publishing		
	House		
	Commission on Archives and		
	History		
	Commission on Communication		
	United Methodist Women		
	Commission on United Methodist		
	Men		
	Commission on Religion and Race		
	Commission on the Status and		
	Role of Women		
	Standing Committee on Central		
	Conference Matters		
Agency Staff	Employed by each agency (12	Employed by Transitional	Connectional Operating Officer
	year term limit for all staff)	Leadership Council	employed by Connectional
			Council (12 year term limit)
			Other staff employed by COO
			and shared among Commissions
Jurisdictional/Central	Boundaries established by	Transitional Leadership Council	General Conference may form
Conferences	General Conference and in the	may form regional conferences	regional conferences
	Constitution	and establish their boundaries	

Annual Conference Composition	All clergy (active and retired), plus an equal number of laity, including specific conference officers	All active clergy, senior clergy within first 7 years of senior status or serving at least ¼ time, plus at least an equal number of laity, can include additional lay officers	All active clergy, retired clergy serving at least ¼ time, plus an equal number of laity
Annual Conference Structure	 Conference Lay Leader Connectional Ministries Staff Council on Finance and Administration Commission on Equitable Compensation Board of Church and Society Board of Discipleship Board of Laity Committee on Ethnic Local Church Board of Global Ministries Board of Higher Education and Campus Ministry Board of Ordained Ministry Administrative Review Committee Committee on Episcopacy Board of Pensions Board of Trustees Commission on Archives and History Committee on Christian Unity and Interreligious Relationships Commission on Religion and Race Commission on the Status and Role of Women 	 Board of Ministry Episcopacy Committee Finance, Administration, Pensions, and Benefits Committee Leadership Committee Committee on Investigation Administrative Review Committee Additional boards and committees established by annual conference 	 Board of Ministry Episcopacy Committee Finance Committee Board of Trustees Committee on Investigation Administrative Review Committee Additional boards and committees established by

ACCOUNTABILITY	20. Commission on the Small Membership Church 21. Commission on Communications 22. United Methodist Women 23. United Methodist Men 24. Council on Youth Ministry 25. Ethnic Caucuses		
Accountability for Clergy	Administrative Process – for incompetence, ineffectiveness, or unwillingness or inability to perform clergy duties Judicial Process – for chargeable offenses Accountable to annual conference clergy	Administrative Process – for incompetence, ineffectiveness, or unwillingness or inability to perform clergy duties Judicial Process – for chargeable offenses Accountable to annual conference clergy	Administrative Process – for incompetence, ineffectiveness, or unwillingness or inability to perform clergy duties Judicial Process – for chargeable offenses Accountable to annual conference clergy
Accountability for Bishops	Administrative Process – for incompetence, ineffectiveness, or unwillingness or inability to perform episcopal duties Accountable to jurisdictional episcopacy committee Judicial Process – for chargeable offenses Accountable to jurisdictional college of bishops, episcopacy committee, complaint process	Administrative Process – for incompetence, ineffectiveness, or unwillingness or inability to perform episcopal duties Accountable to Transitional Leadership Council Judicial Process – for chargeable offenses Accountable to global committee on investigation, global trial court	Administrative Process – for incompetence, ineffectiveness, or unwillingness or inability to perform episcopal duties Accountable to General Episcopacy Committee Judicial Process – for chargeable offenses Accountable to global committee on investigation, global trial court
Chargeable Offenses	 immorality including but not limited to, not being celibate in singleness or not faithful in a heterosexual marriage practices declared by The United Methodist Church to be incompatible with Christian teachings, including 	 Conviction or admission of guilt in criminal activities, including but not limited to child or elder abuse, theft, or assault Fiscal malfeasance or gross financial mismanagement 	 Conviction or admission of guilt in criminal activities, including but not limited to child or elder abuse, theft, or assault Fiscal malfeasance or gross financial mismanagement

	but not limited to: being a	3. Racial, gender, or sexual	3. Racial, gender, or sexual
	self-avowed practicing	discrimination or harassment	discrimination or harassment
	homosexual; or conducting	4. Promoting or engaging in	4. Promoting doctrines or
	ceremonies which celebrate	doctrines or practices, or	practices, or conducting
	homosexual unions; or	conducting ceremonies or	ceremonies or services, that
	performing same-sex	services, that are not in	are not in accord with those
	wedding ceremonies	accord with those	established by the Global
	3. crime	established by the Global	Methodist Church
	4. disobedience to the order	Methodist Church	5. Disobedience to the order
	and discipline of The United	5. Disobedience to the order	and discipline of the Global
	Methodist Church	and discipline of the Global	Methodist Church
	5. dissemination of doctrines	Methodist Church	6. Relationships and/or
	contrary to the established	6. Relationships and/or	behavior that undermines
	standards of doctrine of The	behavior that undermines	the ministry of another
	United Methodist Church	the ministry of another	pastor
	6. relationships and/or behavior	pastor	7. Engaging in sexual activities
	that undermines the ministry	7. Engaging in sexual activities	outside the bonds of a loving
	of another pastor	outside the bonds of a loving	and monogamous marriage
	7. child abuse	and monogamous marriage	between one man and one
	8. sexual abuse	between one man and one	woman, including but not
	9. sexual misconduct including	woman, including but not	limited to sexual abuse or
	the use or possession of	limited to sexual abuse or	misconduct, the use or
	pornography	misconduct, the use or	possession of pornography,
	10. harassment, including, but	possession of pornography,	or infidelity
	not limited to racial and/or	or infidelity.	
	sexual harassment		
	11. racial or gender		
	discrimination		
	12. fiscal malfeasance		
Deadline for Completing	For clergy – 90 Days	60 Days with possible 30-day	60 Days with possible 30-day
Supervisory Response	For bishops – 120 days with two	extension	extension
	possible 120-day extensions		

Supervisory Process Handled By	For clergy – their bishop or bishop's designee For bishop – jurisdictional/central conference college of bishops refers complaint to committee appointed by the chair of the jurisdictional/central conference episcopacy committee, one clergy, one lay from the episcopacy committee	For clergy – their bishop or presiding elder For bishop – chair of the Transitional Leadership Council or their designee	For clergy – their bishop or presiding elder For bishop – Council of Bishops president
Supervisory officials dismiss complaint at supervisory level	If no basis in law or fact, with consent of cabinet, written rationale	If no basis in law or fact, with consent of cabinet, written rationale	If no basis in law or fact, with consent of cabinet, written rationale
If no just resolution and not dismissed	Referred to counsel for the Church	Administrative Complaint referred to Board of Ministry for investigation Judicial Complaint referred to counsel for the Church	Administrative Complaint referred to Board of Ministry for investigation Judicial Complaint referred to counsel for the Church
Investigation of Administrative Complaint	For clergy – Hearing by conference relations committee in case of recommended involuntary status change (rest of process unclear) For bishops – Jurisdictional/ central conference episcopacy committee	For clergy – At least five members of Board of Ministry For bishops – a subcommittee of Transitional Leadership Council. Public hearing with evidence and verbatim record Decision of committee: 1. Dismiss complaint 2. Require remedial action 3. Recommend involuntary status change	For clergy – At least five members of Board of Ministry For bishops – a subcommittee of Global Episcopacy Committee. Public hearing with evidence and verbatim record Decision of committee: 1. Dismiss complaint 2. Require remedial action 3. Recommend involuntary status change
Involuntary status change	Approved by committee, board of ordained ministry, clergy session	For clergy - ¾ vote by hearing body, majority vote by board of ministry and clergy session For bishops – ¾ vote by hearing body and 2/3 vote of Transitional Leadership Council	For clergy - ¾ vote by hearing body, majority vote by board of ministry and clergy session For bishops – ¾ vote by hearing body and 2/3 vote of Global Episcopacy Committee

Appeal of Administrative Complaint Decision	For clergy – Board of ordained ministry, then clergy session For bishops – unclear	For clergy – Board of ordained ministry, then clergy session For bishops – No appeal beyond Transitional Leadership Council	For clergy – Board of ordained ministry, then clergy session For bishops – Global Episcopacy Committee, then Council of Bishops
Deadline for completing administrative process after supervision	90 Days	60 Days with possible 30-day extension	60 Days with possible 30-day extension
Investigation of Judicial Complaint for Clergy	Elected committee on investigation (4 clergy & 3 lay) To advance charges requires at least 5 votes in favor	Elected committee on investigation (4 clergy & 3 lay) To advance charges requires at least 5 votes in favor	Elected committee on investigation (4 clergy & 3 lay) To advance charges requires at least 5 votes in favor
Investigation of Judicial Complaint for Bishops	Committee on investigation elected by jurisdictional or central conference (7 clergy and 2 lay observers) To advance charges requires at least 5 clergy votes in favor	Committee on investigation appointed by Transitional Leadership Council from the global church (5 clergy & 4 lay) To advance charges requires at least 6 votes in favor	Committee on investigation nominated by Council of Bishops, elected by General Conference from the global church (5 clergy & 4 lay) To advance charges requires at least 6 votes in favor
Composition of Trial Court Pool for Clergy	13 persons selected out of a pool of 35 clergy in full connection appointed by the district superintendents from the annual conference	13 persons selected out of a pool of 35 ordained clergy appointed by the presiding elders from the annual conference	13 persons (9 clergy and 4 laity) selected out of a pool of 25 clergy and 15 laity chosen by lot from the annual conference members
Composition of Trial Court Pool for Bishops	13 persons selected out of a pool of 35 clergy in full connection appointed by the College of Bishops in equal numbers from the episcopal areas of that jurisdiction or central conference	13 persons selected out of a pool of 35 ordained clergy appointed by the Transitional Leadership Council in equal numbers from the episcopal areas in the bishop's geographical region, but excluding the bishop's episcopal area	13 persons (9 clergy and 4 laity) selected out of a pool of 25 clergy and 15 lay annual conference members chosen by lot in equal numbers from the episcopal areas in the bishop's geographical region, but excluding the bishop's episcopal area