

Memorial Questions May 20th, 2025

Zoom Meeting

The following questions were presented during the zoom meeting via the zoom chat feature and have been copied and pasted from different individuals. Please use this question sheet to follow along to the questions that were answered in the meeting!

What are the potential USF implications for these mission works?

So, would a Mission be under Fresh Expression designation and not requiring a board?

Without requiring a board, what sorts of accountability are in place for these micro-churches “missions”?

Would a Mission be under the stewardship of a board from a local church, a district, or Church Multiplication division?

I'm very grateful that you are leading the charge on validating micro-churches! The language of the memorial says “which cannot appropriately be organized as a developing church” - this is vague. I'm wondering what would prevent a church plant of 100 people from claiming this designation simply because they don't want to have an LBA. Would you be open to a size limitation?

What is the difference, then, between a small church and a Bible study group or Growth Group etc?

Are these memorials for our region only or are we recommending them to the denom.

Will this effect church's being planted by established church or only autonomous church plants?

Campuses or new church plants?

The General Board reviews all of the memorials that have passed their districts/regions and then recommends (or not) to the General Conference. If there are conflicting memorials, they will recommend one (or none).

I think if we're looking to make it optional for the district to decide, it might be useful to add "may, at the district's discretion, be phased in over the first..."

Can't our pastors already commission others to administer the sacraments?

Thank you for the clarification, John & Andy - that was my question: is this just for communion & baptism, or marriage also.

Did we answer the question about whether Children's Director who is not a designated "minister/pastor" be able to serve communion?

Just verifying adding 2338:5...

Isn't 2338 "Vision" from Education and Clergy Development Division (Chapter 8)?

Is the training already available?

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I felt like my church rituals class was one of the most helpful, yet unfortunately short classes I took at IWU.

The work that has gone into this memorial is greatly appreciated and of great benefit to our historic stance on egalitarianism being properly promoted. The addition of the new paragraph including our egalitarian position statement is warranted. Given its potential inclusion, what is the hope and intent of altering the definition of a minister when the addition of the new paragraph seems to resolve the need to ensure the egalitarian position is upheld?

At the beginning of the explanation, I am curious as to the thought process behind naming the male pastor – Luther Lee – while the woman ordained remains anonymous? To me, it feels like the opposite of promoting egalitarian practice, and makes the proposed changes feel performative, where there is the desire to look egalitarian on paper, or in the discipline, while allowing for non-egalitarian practice in elevating the work of the man over the work of the woman. I am fairly confident that is NOT the intent, but to me, this wording unfortunately gives that impression.

Love this memorial, but curious as to the reasoning behind choosing the word responsibility in 3007. Is there a reason this word was chosen over others?

Will the women in ministry study be published?