

MEMORIAL 2

RESTORATION OF NEW CHURCH PLANT ADJUSTMENT TO USF

Whereas, The Wesleyan Church has long understood the need to intentionally support existing churches as well as plant new churches;

Whereas, New church works often take many years to become financially sustainable;

Whereas, Changes to the 2022 Discipline removed the section New Church Plant Adjustment that allowed for an intentional phase in of USF obligations for new churches to allow for incremental phase in of USF obligations over a period of five years;

Whereas, as we recruit potential church planters expecting USF payment from day one is an unnecessary hardship,

Whereas, The change has added financial burden to our church planters;

Resolved, That the following paragraph be added back into Disciple 2005:4 as paragraph (c), with the following adjustments:

(c) New Church Plant Adjustment. Whenever a district plants a new church, the USF obligation for that church ~~shall~~ **may** be phased in over the first five years of its operation in the following manner: For the first year of operation **beginning with the reception of congregational tithes and offerings at the onset of public worship gatherings**—there will be no obligation; for the second year the assessment will be set at 25 percent of the regular assessment; for the third year at 50 percent; for the fourth year at 75 percent; and for the fifth year at 100 percent.