

PETITION
to the
2018 ROCKY MOUNTAIN ANNUAL CONFERENCE (RMC-04)
2018 YELLOWSTONE ANNUAL CONFERENCE (YAC-04)
2018 MOUNTAIN SKY ANNUAL CONFERENCE (MSC-04)

TITLE: Towards an Inclusive Church

ACTION TO BE VOTED ON:

- 1 Whereas the 160 members of the Association of Retired Clergy have, as a part of our primary charter, to work
2 toward making the United Methodist Church to become more inclusive; and
- 3 Whereas the United Methodist Church continues to state the desire to have “Open minds, Open hearts, and Open
4 Doors”; now, therefore be it
- 5 *Resolved*, that the members of
- 6 [RMC-04] the Rocky Mountain Annual Conference
- 7 [YAC-04] the Yellowstone Annual Conference
- 8 [MSC-04] the Mountain Sky Annual Conference
- 9 encourage the delegates of the 2019 General Conference of the United Methodist Church in contemplation of the
10 “Way Forward” to eliminate all discriminatory language regarding homosexuality from the Book of Discipline so
11 that
- 12 same-sex marriage shall be permitted;
- 13 ordination shall be based on the quality of the candidate called by God, not by virtue of the candidate’s sexual
14 orientation; and
- 15 the statement “Homosexuality is incompatible with Christian teaching” shall be removed from the Book of
16 Discipline.
- 17

PETITION DETAILS

This petition is a
 Binding Action
 Non-Binding Resolution

Effective Date: July 1, 2018

Termination Date: June 30, 2019

Does this petition modify the Annual Conference Standing Rules and Operational Procedures (SROP)?

Yes
 No

If "Yes," please complete the information below.

- This petition will modify Section x.x.x
 This petition will create a new Section x.x.x

Conference Agency responsible for implementation and termination review:

NOTE: All paragraph numberings within the SROP and the final designation of the Conference Agency responsible for implementation and termination review are subject to review by the Rules Committee.

ORIGINATOR OF THE PETITION (individual, church, or organization):

Name Charles Schuster
on behalf of the Steering Committee of the Association of Retired Clergy
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PERSON TO PRESENT PETITION AT ANNUAL CONFERENCE:

Name Don Messer & Harvey Martz
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Phone 303-877-1955 (Don Messer)
303 478-2905 (Harvey Martz)
Phone @ Conference 303-877-1955 (Don Messer)
303 478-2905 (Harvey Martz)

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

Will there be any identifiable financial impact to the Conference?

- Yes
 No

If "Yes," please fill in the information below.

To Be Completed by the Originator of the Petition

Cost: \$
Period
 One Time
 One Year
 Multiple Years

To Be Completed by Conference Council on Finance and Administration (CFA)

Review by CFA 04/20/2018

Included in proposed 2019 budget

Yes
 No

Amount if included \$

May be considered for budgets in future years

Yes
 No

Projected Amount \$

Recommendation by CFA concerning funding

Reason for recommendation

RATIONALE (Not debatable):

- 1 The time has come to find a way forward and to do and be what is Christian and right.
- 2 The path of exclusion takes us back to a place we don't want to go.
- 3 The path of inclusion takes us forward to a place where we have needed to be for over four decades.
- 4

ATTACHMENTS (Additional Information / Not Debatable)