



Connectional Table

The United Methodist Church

1901 Chestnut Ave.
Glenview, Illinois 60025

Greetings from the Connectional Table!

Celebrating the new vision of The UMC and the ratification of regionalization, the Connectional Table (CT) is moving into 2026 with renewed clarity of vision and direction.

The CT serves a distinct role as a worldwide body whose purpose, "... is for the discernment and articulation of the vision for the church and the stewardship of the mission, ministries, and resources of The United Methodist Church as determined by the actions of General Conference and in consultation with the Council of Bishops." (United Methodist Book of Discipline, ¶906)

In 2025, the CT, working in partnership with the Council of Bishops, proposed and supported the new vision: "The United Methodist Church forms disciples of Jesus Christ who, empowered by the Holy Spirit, love boldly, serve joyfully and lead courageously in local communities and worldwide connections."

With a new, less US-centric board established, the Connectional Table is prioritizing leading The UMC in implementing the new denominational vision in collaboration with the Council of Bishops, General Agencies, and Standing Committee on Regional Conference Matters Outside the US. The CT intends to continue articulating and implementing this vision through exploring changes to the allocations criteria and through developing resources for the denomination.

The CT continues to pursue the implementation of worldwide regionalization. We celebrate the ratification of Worldwide Regionalization in 2025 and are grateful for all volunteers and collaborations that made this historic change possible. The CT now prioritizes its role in the development of the US Regional Conference and the discernment regarding jurisdictions and mediation mandated in Petition 8 of Worldwide Regionalization. We are working with the Standing Committee to propose legislative changes to the 2028 General Conference. In 2025, the CT conducted interviews with diverse leaders across the connection regarding the jurisdictions. These interviews found that most interviewees are in favor of eliminating or amending jurisdictions in the US and not implementing jurisdictions in regional conferences outside of the US. More information on these findings can be found at the CT's page on ResourceUMC.

The "Living Home Commission on the Future of United Methodism" was referred to the CT during the 2020/2024 General Conference and was intended to envision a missionally responsive Church and propose Disciplinary changes necessary for a regionally and contextually aligned

United Methodist Church. In response, the CT created a working group to carry out this work. In 2026, this team is seeking input from Agency General Secretaries and board members. This working group will also be responsible for collaborating with the Standing Committee on Central Conference Matters on the General Book of Discipline.

The CT is a small but efficient staff of three people. Partnerships with the agencies and commissions, the Council of Bishops, the Commission on the General Conference, the Standing Committee, annual and regional conferences, and others throughout the connection are central to the CT's work. The CT will continue to work on collaborative projects with all the agencies and work closely with the COB on missional strategy and with the GCFA staff and board on budget-related matters. The CT also partners with UMCOM to manage the CT's communications needs.

As the CT discerns and articulates the vision of The UMC and steward its mission and ministries, its prayer continues to be, "Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, for the living of these days."