J. ACTIONS

This section contains the perfected versions of legislation approved by the 2026 Pacific Northwest Conference when it gathered for its annual session. Original versions of the legislation, and the rationale which accompanied them, can be found in the Pre-Conference Handbook (PCH). At the time of printing, the PCH was available to download at: https://www.pnwumc.org/pnwac/downloads.

MINIMUM COMPENSATION (PCH PETITION #1)

BE IT RESOLVED, that the minimum compensation schedule for full-time service set by the Annual Conference for the Calendar year 2027 will be $54,391.

DISABILITY BENEFITS (PCH PETITION #2)

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Pacific Northwest Annual Conference recommends that the Wespath Benefits and Investments provide Comprehensive Protection Plan Disability Benefits for the Conference year 2026-2027 only if approved for CPP disability benefits by Wespath for *Susan Boegli, Robert Henre, Gloria Kymn, Don Shipley,* and *Cheryl Wuensch*.

MOVING ALLOWANCE (PCH PETITION #3)

The Moving Allowance will be reimbursed through the local church, which will provide a W-2 to the pastor, as this allowance has been taxable since 2018.

BE IT RESOLVED, the recommended moving allowance schedule for the 2026-2027 appointment year is:

A. Intra-conference up to $2,400 (Rule XI, Sec. 2(a)).
B. Retiring minister up to $2,400 (Rule XI, Sec. 2(b)).
C. Surviving spouse up to $2,400 (Rule XI, Sec 2(b)).
D. Minister on Disability Leave, up to $2,400 (Rule XI, Sec. 2(b)).
E. Seminary students returning for local church appointment will be reimbursed on the basis of receipts for moving expenses, including meals and lodging en route, as approved by the District Superintendent with the following dollar limits, based on the one-way mileage from the seminary to the appointment (Rule XI, Sec. 2(c)):
   - Over 2,500 miles – up to $5,000
   - 1,501 to 2,500 miles – up to $4,500
   - 1,001 to 1,500 miles – up to $4,100
   - 801 to 1,000 miles – up to $3,400
   - 501 to 800 miles – up to $2,900
   - 500 miles or less – up to $2,400
F. Candidates for ministry or ministerial members (including paragraph 337.1) transferring in shall be reimbursed up to the seminary students' limits (E) with the provision that the Cabinet may authorize expenditures of up to 150% of the seminary student limit (Rule XI, Sec. 2(c)).

PAST SERVICE PENSION RATE (PCH PETITION #4)

BE IT RESOLVED, that effective January 1, 2027, the Ministerial Pension Rate and the Local Pastors Pension Rate shall be $1,015 and that Supplement One to the Clergy Retirement Security Program be so amended.

EXPLANATION: Supplement One to CRSP is the name of Addendum A to MPP (ministerial pension plan) and CPP (comprehensive protection plan) that was originally adopted by the 1981 session of this Annual Conference (1981 Journal, page 178), and all other provisions of Supplement One/Addendum A continue as previously adopted. This new pension rate represents a 5% increase in the past service rate. The conference board of pensions recognizes the disparity of pension benefits between more recent retirees and those that have been retired for many years and raise above the target of 2% increase when funding surplus is available. If approved, the 2027 past service rate would represent a 24% increase since 2023. In 2026 the past service rate is $967.

RETIREMENT ANNUITY RESPONSIBILITY (PCH PETITION #5)

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Pacific Northwest Conference accept the applicable annuity responsibility for the following persons retiring at the 2026 session of the Annual Conference as of 3/16/2026.

Name	Disc. ¶	Age	Appt. Years*	Effective Date
James Carter	358.2(c)(d)	65 and 0 month	37	12/1/2025
René Devantier	358.2(c)(d)	62 and 0 month	23	8/1/2026
Mark Johnson	358.2(b)	63 and 10 months	36	7/1/2026
Brook McBride	358.2(c)	65 and 1 month	36.5	7/1/2026
Paula McCutcheon	358.2(c)	66 and 11 months	38	7/1/2026
Daniel Miranda	358.2(b)	62 and 2 months	11	7/1/2026
Sheila Miranda	358.2(c)	66 and 10 months	10	7/1/2026
Susan Ostrom	358.2(c)	67 and 5 months	42	7/1/2026
Sandra Ward	358.2(c)	67 and 8 months	12	7/1/2026
Mark R. Williams	358.2(b)	64 and 8 months	31	7/1/2026

** Number of years under appointment not the full-time equivalent service or service as a part-time local pastor.*

RETIREMENT GRANTS (PCH PETITION #6)

BE IT RESOLVED, that the following persons receive grants in lieu of pension from the Pacific Northwest Conference:

PERSONS RECEIVING GRANTS IN
THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST ANNUAL CONFERENCE
2026 - 2027 Pension Grant Schedule

Name (age by end of year)	Service in Conference	Year Eligible	Applicable Pension Rate	Grant $	Payment Period
Wanda L. Butler (surviving spouse of Ralph Butler 70%) (100)	25.0	1983	188	3,290.04	7/1/26-6/30/27
Marilyn Calkins (surviving spouse of Robert Calkins 70%) (89)	12.0	1991	265.93	1,304.28	7/1/26-6/30/27
Richard L. Gossett (81)	7.0	2009	578.58	1,417.56	7/1/26-6/30/27
Marisol Harper (surviving spouse of Craig Harper 70%) (92)	6.75	1993	287.63	458.76	7/1/26-6/30/27
Donald L. Jeter (92)	11.5	1998	349.95	2,314.08	7/1/26-6/30/27
John C. Shirk (93)	5.0	1998	349.95	437.40	7/1/26-6/30/27
				$9,222.12	

ABERDEEN FIRST UMC CLOSURE (PCH PETITION #7)

BE IT RESOLVED, in keeping with ¶2549.2 of the 2020/24 Book of Discipline, by vote of the congregation, with consent of the Bishop, a majority of the Superintendents, and the Crest to Coast Missional District Board of Church Building and Location, that the Pacific Northwest Annual Conference declares the Aberdeen United Methodist Church closed effective June 30, 2026, and further authorizes the Conference Board of Trustees to take possession of the property, real and personal and take all necessary steps to see to its best use, including the potential sale of the property. In keeping with ¶229 and by recommendation of the District Superintendent, membership will be transferred to a neighboring United Methodist church as approved by the District Superintendent, unless individuals elect transfer to another church.

SEATTLE: MAGNOLIA UMC CLOSURE (PCH PETITION #8)

BE IT RESOLVED, in keeping with ¶2549.2 of the 2020/24 Book of Discipline, by vote of the congregation, with consent of the Bishop, a majority of the Superintendents, and the SeaTac Missional District Board of Church Building and Location, that the Pacific Northwest Annual Conference declares the Magnolia United Methodist Church closed effective June 30, 2026, and further authorizes the Conference Board of Trustees to take possession of the property, real and personal and take all necessary steps to see to its best use, including the potential sale of the property. In keeping with ¶229 and by recommendation of the primary superintendent, membership will be transferred to a neighboring United Methodist church as approved by the primary superintendent, unless individuals elect transfer to another church.

TASK FORCE TO EXPLORE BENEFITS FOR DEACONS, DEACONESSES AND HOME MISSIONERS (PCH PETITION #9)

BE IT RESOLVED, that the PNW Annual Conference establish a task force to explore the necessary provisions and standards to allow provisional and ordained deacons, deaconesses, home missioners, and provisional and ordained elders appointed to extension ministries to participate in the denominational pension and benefit plans and programs of the annual conference, including family health coverage, regardless of their status as an employee of the annual conference or a local church, when health benefit coverage is not provided from another source;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this task force be convened by the conference Board of Pensions and include at least the following additional personnel:

- at least one deacon
- at least one elder in extension ministry
- at least one deaconess or home missioner
- a member of the cabinet
- the conference Benefits Manager
- a member of the Commission on Equitable Compensation

And that this task force consult with the conference Chief Financial Officer, Council on Finance and Administration, Wespath, and others whose expertise may inform the work of this task force;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this task force conduct appropriate research to address the following questions:

- Who are the individuals in the categories listed above who need access to the denominational pension and benefit plans and programs of the annual conference, and what circumstances prevent them from accessing these benefits?
- How can the annual conference address these barriers to access?
- What constraints related to participation by the health insurance carrier (Healthflex) are present?
- Who would pay the employer portion of the health benefit and how would it be funded?
- What would be the cost to the annual conference to provide access?
- Any other considerations necessary to draft a resolution in the following manner;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this task force prepare appropriate legislation to be submitted in time for a vote of the 2027 PNW Annual Conference, addressing the above concerns and establishing the necessary provisions and standards to allow provisional and ordained deacons, deaconesses, home missioners, and provisional and ordained elders appointed to extension ministries to participate in the denominational pension and benefit plans and programs of the annual conference, including family health coverage, regardless of their status as an employee of the annual conference or a local church, when health benefit coverage is not provided from another source.

PRIORITIZING DEACONESSES AND HOME MISSIONERS (PCH PETITION #11)

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Pacific Northwest Conference will take the following action to amend Conference Rule 2, Section 3, Subcategory A, to include the words, "deaconesses and home missioners who are recognized by the Office of Deaconess and Home Missioner' to enable that all so recognized, including those in retired status, are lay members of the annual conference.

EDITOR'S NOTE
This change amends the existing rule as follows with changes notated.

Sec. 3. Lay

(a) Lay members elected by each charge; the diaconal ministers, deaconesses~~,~~ and home missioners who are recognized by the Office of Deaconess and Home Missioner, commissioned missionaries, conference presidents of United Women in Faith, United Methodist Men, conference lay leader, district lay leaders, presidents of the Conference Council on Youth Ministries, and Conference Council on Young Adult Ministries, and the chair of the annual conference college student organization (¶33, 602.4). Lay members and alternates elected by the Charge Conference shall be elected for the quadrennium at the Charge Conference preceding each new quadrennium (¶251.2).

CONFERENCE ADVANCE SPECIALS (PCH PETITION #12)

BE IT RESOLVED, the following agencies and projects which are initiated, developed and/or supported within the Pacific Northwest Conference be designated as Conference Advance Specials and be given support through the second-mile giving by churches of the PNW AC 2026-2027 Conference Advance Special Applications.

1. Atlantic Street Center #301
2. Tacoma Community House #302
3. Alaska Conference Support #335
4. Central Washington Justice for our Neighbors #339
5. PNW Conference Camping & Retreat Ministries:
   - Camp Indianola #341
   - Twinlow Camp #343
   - Lazy F Camp #344
   - Ocean Park #345
6. PNW Disaster Relief/Early Response #352
7. Mary Johnston Hospital
8. Church Council of Greater Seattle

SOLIDARITY WITH WAR-AFFECTED COMMUNITIES IN THE PHILIPPINES (PCH PETITION #13)

BE IT RESOLVED: That the Pacific Northwest Conference of the United Methodist Church condemns all acts of violence, military aggression, and violations of human rights, especially the unjust murder of the beloved Filipino American and Seattle human rights advocate Kai Sorem and the rest of the Negros 19. And in that spirit, commits to engage our congregations and regional committees in local and national ecumenical advocacy efforts to support the Philippine Human Rights Act, which would suspend military aid to the Philippines until the Government Republic of the Philippines has made certain reforms to the military and police forces.

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: We pledge to continue efforts to educate our members on the existing conditions of the Filipino people, share the impacts of US military presence in the Philippines by hosting organizations at our churches to share about the Defend Negros campaign and other relevant efforts advocating for respect for human rights in the Philippines, hosting viewings of the recent documentary,"PALAYAIN! The Filipino People's Fight for Peace" to educate our congregations on the impact of US military aid on the Filipino people, participating in efforts to defend and advocate for people of faith who are repressed for their human rights work in the Philippines, monitoring the ongoing human rights crisis and its impacts as much as possible with our Methodist siblings, and advocating for a just and lasting peace as requested by the Filipino people themselves.

THEREFORE IT BE FURTHER RESOLVED: The Pacific Northwest Annual Conference asks Bishop Cedrick Bridgeforth to share a copy of this resolution with the active Bishops of the Philippine Regional Conference and the Philippine Regional Conference Board of Church and Society as a show of our support and solidarity.

FEAST OF CREATION CELEBRATION (PCH PETITION #14)

BE IT RESOLVED, Churches and Pastors in the Pacific Northwest Annual Conference are encouraged to celebrate the new Feast of Creation, beginning on September 1, 2026. This is a new Christian Feast Day that was developed with an Ecumenical process in order that it could be widely adopted and included in liturgies throughout Christian traditions. Celebrations may include a worship service or other celebration on the Feast Day itself, a Feast Day celebration on the first Sunday in September or another Sunday near the actual Feast Day, an educational effort about the Feast Day, and/or a Season of Creation to more fully explore the new lectionary texts for the Feast Day throughout September.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, The Pacific Northwest Conference supports the addition of the Feast of Creation to the official calendar of The United Methodist Church and authorizes the Commission on Environmental Stewardship from our Conference, in collaboration with similar bodies in other conferences, to submit legislation for consideration at General Conference 2028 advocating for this formal addition to the liturgical calendar.

FUNDING REQUEST FOR THE CHURCH COUNCIL OF GREATER SEATTLE (PCH PETITION #16)

BE IT RESOLVED, the Pacific Northwest Annual Conference makes a two-year financial commitment to support the Church Council of Greater Seattle at $6,500 a year beginning in 2027 within the Other Ministries expenses of the budget.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Pacific Northwest Annual Conference recommends the Connectional Table to support the Church Council of Greater Seattle at $6,500 for 2026.

PNW CONFERENCE ENDORSEMENT OF "NO HATE IN WA STATE" CAMPAIGN (NEW)

BE IT RESOLVED, the conference secretary is instructed to endorse the "No Hate in WA State" campaign on behalf of the Pacific Northwest Annual Conference (https://nohateinwastate.org/endorse);

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Director of Connectional Ministries in coordination with the Bishop and appropriate conference staff will encourage to endorse and share resources with its churches, program areas, ministries, and camps about the "No Hate in WA State" campaign leading up to and on November 3, 2026.

RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE CONFERENCE TRUSTEES TO ALLOW SALE OF CONFERENCE PROPERTY (NEW)

BE IT RESOLVED, in keeping with ¶637 of the 2020/24 Book of Discipline, by vote of the Episcopal Residence Committee, with consent of the Bishop, the Pacific Northwest Annual Conference authorizes the Conference Board of Trustees ("Trustees") to manage or sell the Episcopal Residence ("Residence").

The Residence (the housing the Annual Conference owns and offers our resident Bishop) is located in Normandy Park, WA, and is owned in full with no liens or restrictions. The Trustees and the Shared Services staff are hereby authorized to assess the Residence for future use, including possible sale, in accordance with conference-established processes. Upon sale, the Property proceeds shall be divided in accordance with the Conference rules governing property sales, including a portion set aside to fund Pacific Northwest Conference's portion of the episcopal housing allowance.

Other Actions

REIMAGINING APPORTIONMENTS REVISION TO RULE VII.3.B (PCH #10)

Members of the 2026 Pacific Northwest Annual Conference supported the Focus Session recommendation, referring this petition for additional study. For clarity, we are providing the motion to refer, originally presented at the Focus Session by Council on Finance and Administration Chair Rev. Melissa Ramming.

> I move to refer this rule change to CFA for a study of moving to an expense-based apportionment system, with a detailed proposal coming to the 2027 Annual Conference. The study needs to address the implementation of such a plan, the impact on local churches of all sizes, and protect local ministries and annual conference budgets This discernment should include:
>
> - The experience of other conferences in moving to this type of formula
> - An implementation plan to minimize impact on local churches
> - Administrative efficiencies - training for local churches
> - Details for each local church on how it impacts them
> - Providing assumptions made in arriving at a new plan
> - Engagement with a variety of stakeholders
>
> CFA would welcome the writers to take part in the study team to meet these and other goals and ensure a smooth and transparent transition to a well-developed plan.

PROPOSED 2027 PNW CONFERENCE BUDGET (PCH #15)

During the 2026 Pacific Northwest Annual Conference session, the CFA presented the proposed conference budget (PCH Petition #15) to the body. Following the presentation, members engaged in a period of questions, discussion, and clarification regarding the proposal. After this time of Q&A, the Annual Conference voted to support a motion reducing the budget presented by $242,827, asking for CFA to determine the necessary reductions and present a revised budget reflecting this decrease for consideration.

As a result of this action, further work will be needed to address the conference's financial plan moving forward. The Bishop may call a special session of the Annual Conference, likely in the fall, for the body to reconvene and consider the next steps regarding the budget.