

Official Actions of the 2025 World Conference

Consideration of the Call to Prophet-President

On May 31, 2025, fifteen Councils, Quorums, Orders, Mass Meetings, and Caucuses indicated they had given consideration to the Letter from the Council of Twelve Apostles discerning the call of Stassi D. Cramm to serve as the next Prophet-President of Community of Christ. On June 1, 2025, the Conference assembly approved the call of Stassi D. Cramm as the next Prophet-President of Community of Christ and she was ordained by President Emeritus Stephen M. Veazey and Apostle Mareva Arnaud Tchong, President of the Council of Twelve Apostles on Sunday evening during worship.

Letter of Counsel of Proposed Leadership Changes

On June 2, 2025, the Councils, Quorums, Orders, Mass Meetings, and Caucuses indicated they had given consideration to the calls in the Letter of Counsel presented by President Cramm on June 1, 2025 about World Church Leaders and all had been approved by substantial majorities.

The calls were approved for:

- Bunda C. Chibwe and Janné C. Grover to serve as members of the First Presidency and counselors to the president.
- Mareva Arnaud Tchong to serve as the presiding evangelist.
- Matthew J. Frizzell, Adam R. Wade, Carrie L. Welch, Joey S. Williams, Kathleen Erin Hnatyshyn, and Shannon Jean McAdam to serve as a special witness of Jesus Christ as an apostle of Christ's peace and member of the Council of Twelve Apostles.
- Jennifer L. Killpack to serve as president of the High Priest Quorum.

That same day, the Conference Body, considered the Letter of Counsel of Proposed Leadership Changes and approved all named calls.

WCR 1315 World Church Budgeting and Audit Process (adopted June 2, 2025)

Resolved, That World Conference Resolution 1315 be amended to read as follows:

World Church Audit and Budget-development Policy

1. The World Conference shall establish a World Church Finance Board responsible for annually reviewing and approving the World Church audit, the annual Worldwide Mission Budget, and special appropriations.

- 2. The World Conference may establish parameters for the World Church Finance Board in developing and approving annual Worldwide Mission Budgets.
- 3. The World Church Finance Board shall be presided over by the First Presidency and shall be composed of up to forty-three (43) members as follows:
 - a. First Presidency (3)
 - b. Members of the Council of Twelve Apostles (3)
 - c. Presiding Bishopric (3)
 - d. Four (4) bishops elected by the Order of Bishops at World Conference to represent the order, with each elected to serve a six-year term or until their successors are elected. Terms would be staggered so two (2) will be elected at each World Conference.
 - e. Thirty (30) members elected by the World Conference to represent the church atlarge, with each elected to serve a six-year term or until their successor is elected. Terms would be staggered so fifteen (15) would be elected at each World Conference.
- 4. The First Presidency is authorized to appoint board members when vacancies occur between World Conferences. These appointments must follow the same criteria for the vacancy being filled.
- 5. The bishops elected by the Order of Bishops as members of the World Church Finance Board shall be church members in good standing, may be current employees of Community of Christ in local or World Church jurisdictions, and may not serve more than two (2) consecutive full(six-year) terms without a three-year break in service. A term completed by a person appointed to fill an inter-Conference vacancy is not a full term.
- 6. Individuals elected by World Conference as members of the World Church Finance Board shall:
 - be church members in good standing,
 - not be current employees of Community of Christ in local or World Church jurisdictions, except that, where an employee of the church in a multi-nation jurisdiction is nominated for election, the First Presidency may accept such a nomination,
 - not serve more than two (2) consecutive full terms without a full-term break in service,
 - understand that a term completed by a person appointed to fill an inter-Conference vacancy is not a full term.
- 7. The Worldwide Mission Budget shall provide funds to cover travel expenses as requested by World Church Finance Board members.
- 8. The First Presidency, in consultation with the Presiding Bishopric, shall make nominations to the World Church Finance Board for election by the World Conference. In addition, each

World Conference shall allow nominations from the floor. These nominations shall occur early enough to allow biographical sketches of the nominees to be available to the World Conference before the election. In the nomination process, attention shall be given to balanced representation, including factors such as vocation, geographic residence, age, gender, church leadership experience, and church jurisdiction. The First Presidency shall form the specific procedures to conduct voting, including use of prevailing technology as appropriate. The fifteen (15) individuals receiving the highest number of votes shall be declared elected. The First Presidency shall provide the specific procedure in the event of ties.

- 9. The First Presidency shall appoint a team to handle preliminary preparation of the budget. This committee shall be composed of World Church personnel responsible for church programming, finance, and field ministries.
- 10. The annual audit and budget shall be made available on the church website. A summary report shall be printed annually in the *Herald* and made to each World Conference.

WCR 1330 Statement on Nonviolence (adopted June 2, 2025)

On June 2, 2025, after six years of discussion, learning, and refinement, Community of Christ endorsed this Statement on Nonviolence as an official resolution. Without objection, the assembly agreed that endorsement required a two-third vote which the following statement received:

We affirm that nonviolence is a means to embody the gospel message modeled by the teachings and life of Jesus Christ. In pursuing God's justice, those who use nonviolence seek positive change through means guided by the Spirit that do not bring physical, emotional, spiritual, or relational harm to others, oneself, or creation. Worldwide examples teach us that nonviolent actions often lead to transformative and peaceful results. We acknowledge that violent actions often can lead to more violence, making peace impossible. We uphold nonviolence that promotes healing and reconciliation, advocates for the vulnerable, cares for the environment, and creates a just and peaceable society aligned with God's vision for all of creation. Therefore, Community of Christ, recognizing and celebrating the Worth of All Persons and the Sacredness of Creation, encourages the use of nonviolence, whenever possible, to seek justice. How we decide when nonviolence is possible involves a continuous effort undertaken by each of us—both individually and collectively—as we follow Jesus Christ, the peaceful One, Son of the living God, Word made flesh, Savior of the world.

WCR 1331 Promoting Peace by Reducing Gun Proliferation and Violence (adopted June 3, 2025)

Resolved, That Community of Christ reaffirms its commitment to WCR 1270 and calls, with urgency, for all nations in which the church is established to reexamine firearms policies to determine how best to reduce firearm availability in private hands, and be it further

Resolved, That the church calls upon nations of the world in which the church is established to adopt firearm program and regulation regimes that have been demonstrated to substantially limit gun violence, and be it further

Resolved, That the church requests the Peace and Justice Team to prepare study materials for congregations and members to use to advocate for the most effective means of reducing gun violence in local communities.

WCR 1332 No Preambles (adopted June 4, 2025)

Resolved, That resolutions submitted for consideration by a World Conference not include preambles ("Whereas" statements); and be it further

Resolved, That a background statement be included with the resolution on the website and in the conference legislation program; and be it further

Resolved, That the First Presidency define what additional information, such as background and supportive statements may be submitted with proposed resolutions and make provision for the publication of said information with the proposed resolutions.

World Church Finance Board

On June 4, 2025 the following persons were elected to a six-year term to the World Church Finance Board ending 2031 or in two World Conferences if conference dates do not occur every three years.

Raphael Asiko Valerie Brennan Leslie Brooks Berry Ellis Suanny Genao Melissa Gribbon Kathryn Haines Wendell Nahum Dubon Hernández Judith Jackson Ronald A. Viera Lopéz Kimberly Lubbers Claribel Ramírez Tejada Joel Ross Mike Wellington Carole Wight

WCR 1333 Climate Emergency – Fossil-Fuel Reduction (adopted June 5, 2025)

Resolved, That Community of Christ join with others to call for an accelerated, just transition to renewable energy in a fair and inclusive manner that benefits all peoples instead of the few while supporting countries and communities most vulnerable to the impacts of the climate emergency; and be it further

Resolved, That Community of Christ join with others and call for the expansion of fossil-fuel infrastructure to cease and support <u>a</u> transition away from fossil-fuel-based energy production; and be it further

Resolved, That Community of Christ call upon its members, congregations, and jurisdictions to declare our intent to divest, <u>when feasible,</u> from fossil-fuel investments, following the process that the World Church is modeling: that is, to research, educate ourselves, and divest from companies that continue to invest in and promote fossil fuels; and be it further

Resolved, That Community of Christ declare its support for a just and responsible Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty.

WCR 1334 Increasing Access to Creative Works Copyrighted by Community of Christ (adopted June 5, 2025)

Resolved, That the appropriate team or presiding officers, in consultation with other World Church leaders, consider the possibility of applying Creative Commons licenses to some or all of the creative works currently copyrighted by all corporations associated with the World Church.

WCR 1335 Establishment of a Bylaw Committee to Review and Revise Community of Christ Bylaws with a Focus on Governance (*adopted June 5, 2025*)

Whereas, Community of Christ is working its way through several governance-related transitions, including non-geographic congregations operating on social-media platforms, the establishment of some policies applicable only within certain national churches, the cultural shift of moving from a people with a prophet toward being a prophetic people, and the increased use of technology to allow for remote participation for conferences, as well as sophisticated polling tools to allow for consensus-building practices within conferences. Therefore, be it

Resolved, That this Conference authorize the creation of a Special World Church Committee to investigate and propose recommendations for updated bylaws and governance models, to better meet current and anticipated future needs of an international church with multiple national jurisdictions, all the while upholding common consent as an important principle of our governance heritage; and be it further

Resolved, That this Committee provide a report to the 2028 World Conference.

WCR 1336 Climate Change Emergency Call for Action (adopted June 5, 2025)

Resolved, That Community of Christ identify and act on ways that it may, in socially responsible ways, respond to the climate change emergency and that it encourage its members, at an individual, congregational, and regional level, to do likewise; and be it further;

Resolved, That in keeping with its continued commitment and desire to educate, advocate and respond, the church develop and identify for its members and the global community scriptural, theological, and historical study and discussion resources pertaining to the climate change emergency and its impact on human rights; and be it further; *Resolved*, That the church, as a global Christian community, declares that it supports the call for more inclusive national laws and policies and international coordination, including a treaty/treaties of the United Nations, that recognize the legitimate refugee status of persons forced to leave their homes and countries as a result of climate change; and be it further

Resolved, That the responsibility for continued response by the church to the climate change emergency be referred to the First Presidency for the adoption of further reports and/or official statements, and if deemed appropriate by the First Presidency, additional legislation to be presented to the 2028 World Conference; and be it further *Resolved*, That the Conference recommends the First Presidency to direct the Temple School or another appropriate body to develop educational materials over the next three years to establish a curriculum (with components appropriate for youth and adults) designed to raise awareness of the climate change emergency and promote ways to respond to this.

Standing High Council

On June 5, 2025, the following members concluded their service on the Standing High Council.

Lucy N. Ibanga (2019-2024) Sharon M. (Sherri) Kirkpatrick (1998-2025) Warwick (Rick) Sarre (2013-2025)

The following high priests were then set apart to serve on the Standing High Council:

Macrine Boisabi Mochama – Kenya Ezekiel Eshiet Akpan – Nigeria Lisa Yen – Australia

Sustaining of World Church Leaders

On June 6, 2025, the following leaders were sustained:

First Presidency

Stassi D. Cramm, Bunda C. Chibwe, Janné C. Grover

Presiding Bishopric

Ronald D. Harmon, Jr., Carla K. Long, Willem F. van Klinken

Council of Twelve Apostles

Richard C.N. James, president Carrie L. Welch, secretary Matthew J. Frizzell Kathleen E. Hnatytshyn Lachlan E. Mackay Catherine C. Mambwe Shannon J. McAdam Carlos Enrique Mejia Angela Alt. Ramirez de Hernandez Arthur E. Smith Adam R. Wade Joey S. Williams

Presidents of Seventy

Karin F. Peter, *senior president* Joelle Wight, *secretary* John F. Glaser Larry R. McGuire Sylvester Ochieng Leslie Pascua Jr. Humberto Rosario del Rosario

Presiding Evangelist

Mareva M. Arnaud Tchong

High Priest Quorum President

Jennifer L. Killpack

Standing High Council

Ezekiel Eshiet Akpan David M. Byrn Mark D. Dixon Eva M. Erickson Gwendolyn E. Hawks-Blue Issac Bennet Joshua Vincent E. Lewis Ronald Alexander Viera López Marilee A. Martens Machrine Boisabi Mochama Joan L. Thompson Lisa Yen

World Church Secretary

Susan K. Naylor

WCR 1337 Earth Stewardship Affirmation (adopted June 6, 2025)

Resolved, That the Earth Stewardship Team be directed to continue to address the issues of climate and environmental concern by producing resources for study and exploration with focus on issues worldwide; and be it further

Resolved, That requirements be in place for any new construction of church facilities to adhere to eco-friendly practices regarding energy usage and sustainability; and be it further *Resolved*, That World Church jurisdictions and individual households be encouraged to evaluate the need to upgrade, renovate, and innovate in order to maintain existing properties and facilities and to recognize good energy practices and use of vital resources; and be it further

Resolved, That every Apostolic Field and Jurisdiction be encouraged to organize and conduct peace colloquia to focus on environmental issues unique to their locality; and be it further *Resolved*, That projects be organized that promote strategies for care of Earth's resources specifically designed to involve children and youth and which consider the use of campgrounds and church facilities as sites to demonstrate and model good stewardship practice; and be it further

Resolved, That the Earth Stewardship Team and church officers explore ways to support research and innovations that mitigate environmental degradation and contribute to a healthy Earth; and be it further

Resolved, That World Church officials explore opportunities to be involved in discourse with organizations and movements that speak to the plight of vulnerable and at-risk populations of the world, addressing the consequences of climate change as a matter of justice.

WCR 1338 Affirming an Inclusive Zion in the Holy Land (adopted June 6, 2025)

Be it Resolved, That Community of Christ opposes any misuse of scripture that misstates God's plan for restoring Christ's Kingdom on Earth, such as theology proposed by Christian Zionism, and be it further

Resolved, That Community of Christ rejects priority for any one group to inhabit the Holy Land, and be it further

Resolved, That Community of Christ restates and reaffirms its belief in the inestimable worth of all persons in order to promote a peaceable kingdom.

Dates for the 2028 World Conference

31 March–7 April 2028

Field Organization

Council of Twelve and Presidents of Seventy Assignments 2025-2028

Field 1	
Apostles Art Smith and Adam Wade	Andhra Pradesh India Mission Centre Buripadar India Mission Centre Chandragiri India Mission Centre Ganjam India Mission Centre
President of Seventy Leslie Pascua	Kenduguda India Mission Centre Mohana India Mission Centre South India Green Valley Mission Centre
Mission Support President of Seventy Larry McGuire	Nepal Mission Centre East Asia Mission Area Philippines Mission Center Centre de mission de la Polynésie Française Centre de mission d'Haiti Grand Nord Centre de mission d'Haiti Grand Sud
Field 2	
Apostles Carlos Enrique Mejia and Angela Ramirez	Centro de Misión de Brasil Centro de Misión del Caribe Centro de Misión de Centroamérica Centro de Misión de República Dominicana
President of Seventy Humberto Rosario	Centro de Misión México-Texas Centro de Misión del Noroeste de Suramérica Centro de Misión del Cono Sur de Suramérica
Hispanic Leadership Support President of Seventy John Glaser	
Field 3	
Apostles Catherine Mambwe and Joey Williams President of Seventy Sylvester Ocheing Mission Support President of Seventy Larry McGuire	Centre de mission de Congo Ouest Kinshasa (RDC) Centre de mission de Côte D'Ivoire & Togo Centre de mission de Kashobwe, Kilwa, & Pweto (RDC) Centre de mission de Kipushi, Lubumbashi, & Kasenga (RDC) Centre de mission de Lualaba (RDC) Centre de mission de Tanganyika & Haut Lomami (RDC) Centre de mission du Grand Kasaï (RDC) Kenya Mission Centre Liberia & Sierra Leone Mission Center Malawi Mission Centre Nigeria Mission Centre Zambia, Zimbabwe & South Africa Mission Centre

Field 4	
ApostlesLachlan Mackay and Shannon McAdamPresidents of SeventyKarin Peter and Joelle WightHispanic Leadership Support President of SeventyJohn Glaser	All Nations Congregation Australia Mission Centre British Isles Mission Centre Canada East Mission Centre Canada West Mission Centre Eurasia Mission Centre First People Congregation Pacific Island Mission Centre Western Europe Mission Centre
Field	
Field	Alabama Northwast Florida USA Mission Contor
Apostles Matt Frizzell, Kat Hnatyshyn, Richard James, Carrie Welch, with support from Lachlan Mackay and Shannon McAdam	Alabama - Northwest Florida USA Mission Center Arizona USA Mission Center Ark-La-Tex USA Mission Center Bountiful USA Mission Center Brush Creek USA Mission Center Cedar Valley-Nauvoo USA Mission Center
Karin Peter and Joelle Wight	Central USA Mission Center
Presidents of Seventy Karin Peter and Joelle Wight Hispanic Leadership Support President of Seventy John Glaser	Central Missouri USA Mission Center
	Rio Grande USA Mission Center Rocky Mountain USA Mission Center Sierra Pacific USA Mission Center South Central States USA Mission Center Southeast USA Mission Center
	Western Ohio USA Mission Center

Declared Out of Order by the First Presidency

G-3 Resolution Concerning the Sacred Stewardship of the Temple and the Auditorium in Independence, Missouri, and the Principle of Common Consent

Excerpt of the Ruling

"The Chair calls the attention of the assembly to Item G-3 ... The chair understands that there was discussion at the Canada East Mission Centre about whether this resolution was in order as written when compared to Community of Christ bylaws and other governing documents including the Doctrine and Covenants. The decision was made to submit the resolution as it was to the mission centre conference. Thus, the First Presidency was obligated to evaluate the resolution as approved by the mission centre conference and submitted to the World Conference for approval." ...

... "Although the resolution is ruled out of order, the First Presidency is sympathetic to the concerns that led to its submission and acknowledge that it was prioritized as #3 among 15 items. We understand that the sale of properties in Nauvoo and Kirtland came as a surprise to many, creating questions and disappointment which understandably heightened concerns about the future of the Temple and Auditorium. We recognize the desire for a more transparent process when decisions like these arise." ...

Read the full text of the ruling on G-3 which included a brief financial update from the Presiding Bishopric. Find it on page 6 of the <u>Thursday Daily Bulletin</u>, posted in the 2025 World Conference section of Our Ministry Tools.

Referred to the First Presidency at Adjournment

- G-6 Threat of Confiscation of Monies in the AIP Accounts
- G-7 Unilateral Authority Not Given by Church Membership
- G-8 Bicentennial Doctrine and Covenants
- G-9 Divine Insights Calling Us!