

Bylaws

Of The North American Pacific/Asian Disciples

Preamble

We, the members of the North American Pacific/Asian Disciples of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the United States and Canada, affirm the cultures and heritages of Pacific/Asian peoples within the historic and living Christian faith.

As part of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), we join with other Disciples in the total mission of the church, to recognize and promote the gifts and presence of North American Pacific/Asian Disciples in the life and work of the Church.

Article I: Name

The name of this organization will be the North American Pacific/Asian Disciples of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the United States and Canada. The organization will be referred to in this document as the North American Pacific/Asian Disciples (NAPAD).

Article II: Purpose

Section I: To participate in God's mission through the various expressions of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the United States and Canada.

Section II: To contribute to the wholeness and unity of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the United States and Canada.

Section III: To advocate for Pacific/Asian Disciples within and outside the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the United States and Canada.

Section IV: To share the gifts and traditions of Pacific/Asian Disciples with the wider church.

Article III: Membership

Membership in the North American Pacific/Asian Disciples is granted to members of NAPAD congregations, to Pacific/Asian Disciples whose congregations are not affiliated with the

NAPAD, and to non-Pacific/Asian Disciples who have express and abiding affinity for the NAPAD.

Article IV: Board of Directors

Section I. Composition of the Board of Directors

A. Membership of the Board of Directors.

- 1) The Board will consist of nine elected directors and four ex-officio directors. In forming the Board of Directors, the NAPAD will seek to be inclusive, ensuring representation of men, women, youth, young adults, senior adults, clergy, laity, geography, and ethnicities. At least one director must be from a numerically small ethnic group within the NAPAD.
- 2) The elected directors will consist of Moderator, Moderator-Elect, Secretary/Treasurer, Representative to the General Board, and five Directors-at-Large.
- 3) The Immediate Past Moderator and the Executive Pastor of the NAPAD will serve as ex-officio members. A Representative from the General Ministries and a Representative from the Regional Ministries of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) will also serve as ex-officio members upon being confirmed at the Convocation. All ex-officio members will serve with vote.

B. Terms of the Board of Directors

- 1) The term of office for each director—except for the director elected as Representative to the General Board— will be two years and will commence at the conclusion of the biennial Convocation where he or she is elected. Each director—except the director who is on the moderator track, the director elected as Representative to the General Board, and the director elected to fill a vacancy as specified in Section IV of this Article—may serve up to two consecutive terms, for a total of four years. A director who has served two consecutive terms or a director who has completed the moderator track or a director who has completed a term as the Representative to the General Board will not be eligible for re-election to the NAPAD Board of Directors until one biennium has elapsed. The terms of service will be staggered to ensure smooth transition.
- 2) The moderator track is defined as the succession of offices from Moderator-Elect, to Moderator, to Immediate Past Moderator. The director who is on this track may serve no more than two years on each of the positions on the track and no more than six years in total.
- 3) The Representative to the General Board of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

will serve a single four-year term.

C. Quorum

A quorum for plenary meetings of the Board of Directors will be seven members, one of them being the Moderator or Moderator-Elect.

Section II. General Duties of the Board of Directors

- A. Collaborate with the Executive Pastor to develop program priorities and strategies.
- B. Be responsible for developing funds necessary to operate NAPAD ministries. This includes being responsible for apportionments such as the Disciples Mission Fund, developing a budget for the biennial Convocation, and adopting an annual budget for the Executive Pastor of the NAPAD
- C. Act on behalf of the biennial Convocation between the Convocations.
- D. Be responsible for the selection, employment, and dismissal of the Executive Pastor.
- E. Advise and assist the Executive Pastor regarding program development and implementation—including planning the biennial Convocation, specifically determining the period and place to hold the Convocation.
- F. Nominate Pacific/Asian Disciples to various board memberships of the General Ministries and Regions of the Church.
- G. Be accountable for the NAPAD ministries to the General Board of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ).

Section III: Particular Duties of the Board of Directors

A. Moderator

- 1. Preside over meetings of the Convocation and the Board of Directors.
- 2. Represent the NAPAD at the boards and agencies of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) and other denominational and ecumenical organizations and gatherings.
- 3. Appoint chairpersons and members of committee(s) as needed.
- 4. Serve as an ex- officio member of the Board of Directors after his/her term expires.

B. Moderator-Elect

- 1. In the absence or incapacity of the Moderator, perform all duties of the Moderator.
- 2. Chair the nominating committee.
- 3. Assume the office of Moderator at the end of his/her term.

C. Secretary/Treasurer

1. Record the minutes of the meetings of the Board of Directors and distribute them before the subsequent meeting.
2. Be responsible for recording minutes of major meetings at the Convocation.
3. Review, verify, and report on financial records of the NAPAD as needed.

D. Representative to the General Board

1. Represent the NAPAD at meetings of the General Board of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ).
2. Report to the Board of Directors and the Convocation decisions of the General Board of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ).

E. Directors-at-Large

The Directors-at-Large will serve as committee chairs for NAPAD program/mission areas such as youth, young adults, and women.

F. General Ministries Representative

A director nominated by the Council of General Ministries of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) to promote cooperation and mutual accountability between the NAPAD and the general ministries of the church.

G. Regional Ministries Representative.

A director nominated by the College of Regional Ministers to promote cooperation and mutual accountability between the NAPAD and the regions of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ).

Section IV. Vacancies

When a vacancy occurs the Moderator will, with approval from the Board of Directors, appoint a person to fulfill the remaining term. Such person(s) shall serve the unexpired term of the vacancy and will be eligible for election up to two full terms.

Section V. Selection of the Board of Directors/Nominating Committee

- A. The Moderator will appoint a nominating committee to nominate new directors.
- B. The nominating committee will be composed of the Moderator-Elect and three other directors of the Board. The Moderator-Elect will chair the nominating committee.

Approved by general consensus of the Restructure and Constitution Reform Taskforce, 6/15/10

C. Persons nominated by the nominating committee must be confirmed by the Board of Directors before being presented to the biennial Convocation.

D. Directors will be elected by the Convocation.

Section VI. Other Committees

The NAPAD, either via the Board of Directors or the biennial Convocation, will establish committees as needed to implement its ministries.

Section VII. Expulsion of a Director from the Board.

A director may be expelled from the Board for due cause upon the two-thirds vote of the Board.

Article V: Executive Pastor

Section I. Comprehensive Leadership

The Executive Pastor will be responsible to the Board for providing comprehensive leadership that will enable the NAPAD to fulfill the purposes and affirmations stated in these Bylaws.

Section II. Implementation of Programs

The Executive Pastor will be responsible to the Board for successful implementation of NAPAD programs, including those related to the Convocation.

Section III. Presentation of Activity Reports

The Executive Pastor will present activity reports to the Board and the Convocation as needed. At least one such report must be presented at each biennial Convocation.

Section IV. Presentation of Financial Reports

The Executive Pastor will present financial reports to the Board and the Convocation as needed. At least one such report must be presented at each biennial Convocation.

Section V. Authority over Staff

The Executive Pastor will have the authority to hire and dismiss any employee of the NAPAD.

Section VI. Accountability to the Board of Directors

Approved by general consensus of the Restructure and Constitution Reform Taskforce, 6/15/10

The Executive Pastor will be selected and employed by the NAPAD Board of Directors. The Board has the power to dismiss the Executive Pastor in accordance with Board approved personnel policies.

Article VI: Convocation

Section I. General Goal and Role of the Convocation

The Convocation will promote the purposes stated in Article II and be the final decision-making body of the NAPAD.

Section II. Time and Place of the Convocation

The NAPAD will hold a biennial Convocation alternating with the General Assembly of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the United States and Canada, at a period and place determined by the Board of Directors of the NAPAD.

Section III. Voting Eligibility at the Business Meetings of the Convocation

To be eligible to vote at business meetings of the Convocation, persons must be at least eighteen years old, be able to meet membership criteria as specified in Article III, and be duly registered.

Section IV. Quorum for the Business Meetings of the Convocation

A quorum for business meetings at the Convocation will be one-half plus one of all eligible voters.

Section V. Non-Member Participation at the Convocation

Non-members may participate in all gatherings at the Convocation. In business meetings, they may participate as observers without vote.

Article VI. Parliamentary Authority

The rules contained in the current edition of *Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised* will govern the NAPAD in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these Bylaws and any special rules of order the NAPAD may adopt.

Article VII. Amendments

Section I: Votes and Notice Required for Amendment

Approved by general consensus of the Restructure and Constitution Reform Taskforce, 6/15/10

These Bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds majority of the voting members at a biennial Convocation, provided that a written notice of the proposed change has been presented to the Board of Directors 60 days in advance of the upcoming Convocation.

Section II: Notification of Proposed Amendments

Proposed amendments will be posted on the NAPAD website thirty days before the Convocation and made available to NAPAD members in hard copy at the opening day of the Convocation.

Amendments to be ratified at the 16th Convocation of NAPAD, August 4-7, 2010

Proposed Amendments to NAPAD Constitution-Bylaws