

Page

*Ministries*

*Resolution Number: 29*

*Financial Implications: None*

*General Board of Global Ministries*

1 Revise Resolution 29 as follows:

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3 # 29. Annual Conference Strategic, Comprehensive Plans for Hispanic/Latino-Latina

4 Ministries

5

6 WHEREAS, God calls us to proclaim God's mighty acts (1 Peter 2:9) and to be good

7 stewards of God's manifold grace, serving one another with whatever gift each has

8 received (1 Peter 4:10), and to organize ourselves for the work of ministry (Ephesians

9 4:7-13); and

10

11 WHEREAS, our United Methodist heritage integrates missional action with

12 organizational support; and

13

14 WHEREAS, The *Book of Discipline* ~~2000~~ **2004** declares that "the mission of the Church

15 is to make disciples of Jesus Christ by proclaiming the good news of God's grace and **by**

16 **exemplifying Jesus' command to love God and neighbor**, thus seeking the fulfillment

17 of God's reign and realm in the world" (§ 121), and that "each annual conference is

18 responsible to focus and guide the mission and ministry of The United Methodist Church

19 within its boundaries by: **1.** envisioning the ministries necessary to live out the mission of

20 the church in and through the annual conference; [...] **3.** providing encouragement,

21 coordination, and support for the ministries of nurture, outreach, and witness in districts

*Page*

*Ministries*

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22 and congregations for the transformation of the world; [...] **5.** developing and  
23 strengthening ethnic ministries, including ethnic local churches and concerns . . . ." (¶  
24 607); and

25

26 WHEREAS, according to the ~~2000~~ **2006** United States ~~census analysis~~ **Census Bureau**  
27 **estimate**, ~~the people group in the United States called Hispanic/Latino-Latina has~~  
28 ~~increased 58 percent from 1990 to 2000 and is projected to be 25 percent of the United~~  
29 ~~States population by 2040~~ the Hispanic/Latino-**Latina** population has surpassed 44  
30 million; and

31

32 WHEREAS, these figures represent an undercount and do not reflect information about  
33 undocumented persons; and

34

35 WHEREAS, according to the General Board of Global Ministries Office of Research's  
36 analysis of the census data, every annual conference of The United Methodist Church in  
37 the United States has within its boundaries a growing Hispanic/Latino-Latina population;  
38 and

39

40 WHEREAS, for ~~three~~ **four** quadrennia the General Conference has approved the National  
41 Plan for Hispanic/Latino-~~Latina~~ Ministry as a mission initiative of the whole church, and

Page

*Ministries*

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42 it is a comprehensive plan of ~~evangelization~~ **ministries** with Hispanic/Latino-Latina  
43 communities by the whole church; and

44

45 WHEREAS, in direct relationship to the implementation of the National Plan for  
46 Hispanic/Latino-Latina Ministry, ~~600~~ faith communities have been established in ~~52~~  
47 ~~conferences~~, ~~900~~ lay missionaries have been equipped and deployed, **missionaries have**  
48 **been commissioned and assigned**, ~~75~~-new Hispanic/Latino-Latina congregations have  
49 been started in ~~35~~ ~~conferences~~, ~~70~~ existing Hispanic/Latino-Latina churches in ~~35~~  
50 ~~conferences~~ have been strengthened, and ~~900~~ outreach ministries have been established in  
51 ~~52~~ ~~conferences~~; and

52

53 WHEREAS, according to the Office of the National Plan for Hispanic/Latino-Latina  
54 Ministry's estimates, the Hispanic/Latino-Latina membership in The United Methodist  
55 Church has increased by 40 percent from 1996 to 2002; and

56

57 WHEREAS, according to the Office of the National Plan for Hispanic/Latino-Latina  
58 Ministry's estimates, Hispanic/Latino-Latina persons represent less than 1 percent of the  
59 total membership of The United Methodist Church and Hispanic/Latino-Latina  
60 congregations represent approximately 1 percent of all United Methodist chartered  
61 churches; and

62

*Ministries*

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*General Board of Global Ministries*

63 WHEREAS, these figures represent an undercount due to difficulties in reporting the  
64 number of Hispanic/Latino-Latina members in multicultural churches and non-  
65 Hispanic/Latino-Latina congregations, and the number of Hispanic/Latino-Latina  
66 congregations sharing facilities with other ethnic and cultural churches; and due to  
67 difficulties in the lack of reports from some Hispanic/Latino-Latina congregations; and  
68

69 WHEREAS, in spite of the National Plan for Hispanic/Latino-Latina Ministry and other  
70 missional efforts, advances and success in reaching the ~~people group called~~  
71 Hispanic/Latino-Latina **population** and the increased presence of Hispanic/Latino-Latina  
72 persons in the United Methodist connectional system, the ~~people group in the United~~  
73 ~~States called~~ Hispanic/Latino-Latina **population** represents a huge mission field,  
74

75 *Therefore, be it resolved, that by December 31, 2006, every annual conference in the*  
76 *United States shall be challenged to* develop a strategic, comprehensive plan for  
77 Hispanic/Latino-Latina ministries within its boundaries, ~~and this plan~~ **which** will include,  
78 but not be limited to, socio-economic, cultural, and religious analysis of the  
79 Hispanic/Latino-Latina communities that will be served; and strategies to strengthen  
80 existing Hispanic/Latino-Latina ministries and congregations, to start new ministries and  
81 congregations, to identify, equip, and deploy clergy and laity leaders, and to identify and  
82 deploy material and financial resources.

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Page

Ministries

Resolution Number: 29

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General Board of Global Ministries

84 *Be it further resolved*, that the Council of Bishops, the National Plan for Hispanic/Latino-  
85 ~~Latina~~ Ministry, the General Board of Discipleship and the General Board of Global  
86 Ministries ~~ensure that the conference comprehensive plans are in place by the indicated~~  
87 ~~date and~~ **will** provide support and consultation in the development of the plans.

88

89 ADOPTED 2004

90 **See Social Principles, ¶161.**

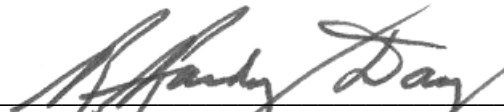
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93  
94 Bishop Joel N. Martinez, President  
95 General Board of Global Ministries  
96 475 Riverside Drive, Room 350  
97 New York, NY 10115  
98 (210) 408.4500  
99 E-Mail: [bishop@umcswtx.org](mailto:bishop@umcswtx.org)

100



Rev. R. Randy Day, General Secretary  
General Board of Global Ministries  
475 Riverside Drive, Room 350  
New York, NY 10115  
(212) 870.3606  
E-Mail: [rday@gbgm-um.org](mailto:rday@gbgm-um.org)