United Methodist Church
Basic Organizational Structure
UMC Basic Organizational Structure

• Agenda
  – Constitutional Structure
    • Council of Bishops
    • Judicial Council
    • General Conference
  – General Conference
    • Jurisdictional Conferences
    • Annual Conferences
    • Districts
    • Charge conferences and local churches
  – Hillview United Methodist Church Organization
UMC Basic Organizational Structure

Constitutional Structure

Council of Bishops

Judicial Council

General Conference
UMC Basic Organizational Structure

• Constitutional Structure
  – United Methodist Church (UMC) does not have a central headquarters
  – UMC does not have a single executive leader
  – Duties are divided among three bodies:
    • Council of Bishops
    • Judicial Council
    • General Conference
  – Each group required by UMC constitution
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• Council of Bishops
  – Gives general oversight of the ministries, the mission of the church, and spiritual leadership to the entire church connection
  – Meets at least once a year
  – Comprised of all active and retired Bishops
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• Judicial Council
  – Serves as the Church’s highest Judicial body or “Court”
  – Interprets church Law
  – Determines constitutionality of all proceedings at all levels of church life
  – Nine members are made of laity and clergy
  – Normally meet twice a year
  – Elected at General Conference
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• General Conference
  – The UMC primary legislative body
  – Only body that speaks officially for the entire Church
  – Meets every four years to determine legislations affecting connectional matters (2016, 2020)
  – Made up of no fewer than 600 or no more than 1000 delegates
  – An equal number of laity and clergy delegates are elected from the United Methodist Conferences around the world
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• Jurisdictional Conferences
  – Five geographic jurisdictions in the United States
  – Comprised of 8 - 15 Annual Conferences
  – HUMC is in the Western Jurisdiction
UMC Basic Organizational Structure

- Jurisdictional Conferences - United States

Jurisdictional Conferences

- North Eastern
  - South Central
- South Eastern
- North Central
  - Western
UMC Basic Organizational Structure

• Annual Conferences
  — Geographic entities
  — Meets annually for 3 – 5 Days
  — Made up of elected laity and clergy
  — Functioning body of the Church
  — 56 Annual Conferences in the United States
  — Eight Annual Conferences in the Western Jurisdiction
  — HUMC is in the Oregon-Idaho Annual Conference
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• Annual Conferences

Western Jurisdiction

- Alaska
- Oregon-Idaho
- California-Pacific
- Rocky Mountain
- Pacific Northwest
- California-Nevada
- Desert Southwest
- Yellowstone
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• Oregon-Idaho Annual Conference
  – Has four districts
  – Local churches in a geographic area are organized into a district
  – District Superintendents leads their district
    • Appointed to a six-year term
  – HUMC is in the Sage District
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• Oregon-Idaho Annual Conference
  - Colombia District
  - Cascadia District
  - Crater lake District
  - Sage District
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• Sage District
  – Has 57 Congregations located in eastern Oregon and southern Idaho
  – HUMC is one of the 57 Congregations
  – District Office is located in Portland, Oregon
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• Hillview United Methodist Church Structure
  – All-Church Conference or Charge Conference
    • Top decision making body
    • Charge Conference – only church leadership votes
    • All-Church Conference – all members vote
  – Church Council is the governing body at HUMC
    • Committee chairs and UMW, Boy Scouts, Preschool
  – Two main functional areas under Church Council
    • Programs
    • Administrative (Support Committees)
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• Hillview United Methodist Church Structure
  – Programs
    • Worship (Praise and Traditional Services)
      – Music
    • Christian Education
      – Youth
      – Family Ministries
    • Welcome, Invite, and Membership (WIM)
    • Faith in Action (FIA)
      – Outreach programs, Reconciling, other churches
    • Council on Ministries (COM)
UMC Basic Organizational Structure

• Hillview United Methodist Church Structure
  — Administrative (Support Committees)
    • Trustees
    • Finance
    • Staff Parish Relations Committee (SPRC)
      – Office Administration
    • Lay Leadership (Nominations)
    • Safety Ministries Committee
    • Endowment
UMC Basic Organizational Structure

All Church or Charge Conferences

Church Council

Programs
- Worship
- Christian Ed
- WIM
- FIA
- COM

Administrative
- Trustees
- Endowment
- Finance
- Lay Leadership
- SPRC
- Safety Ministries

UMW
Boy Scouts
Preschool
UMC Basic Organizational Structure

• United Methodist Women (UMW)
  – Faith based membership organization of laywomen
  – Growing as disciples of Jesus Christ in community with other women
  – Advocating on behalf of women, children and youth around the world
  – UMW has been in mission for 140 years
  – HUMC has an active UMW organization
UMC Basic Organizational Structure

• Frequently Asked Questions
  – What if I notice a problem or issue with the church buildings or grounds who should I report it to? Any Trustee member.
  – What if I have an issue or problem with a staff member who do I discuss it with? The pastor unless it is with the pastor then an SPRC member.
  – What if I have a suggestions or recommendation for an excellent adult or youth educational program? Contact a Christian Education member.
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• Frequently Asked Questions
  – How do I find out who is on a particular committee at HUMC? A master list of committees with chairs and committee members is available each year. Contact the church office.
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• Frequently Asked Questions
  – Can I contact the Bishop of the Oregon-Idaho conference or the District Superintendent (DS) if I have a problem or issue at HUMC? The answer is no. The Bishop or DS do not have an working knowledge of HUMC operations or activities. They will refer the issue or concern back to HUMC. Please contact the appropriate committee chair or the church pastor.