

**PART EIGHT**

**AMENDMENTS TO THE  
DISCIPLINE**

## **800 AMENDMENTS TO THE DISCIPLINE**

### **801 AMENDMENT PROCEDURE**

The *Discipline* may only be amended every five years, with the exception of Part Seven (see 803.4) and editorial changes. The five year cycle for amendments shall run concurrent with the regular five year term of the Bishop. In order for an amendment to be considered by the National Conference, it must first be recommended by the National Ministry Team and then be presented to the National Conference one year prior to the vote. The amendment may only be voted on if it is presented in the same form as it was accepted the previous year. A three-fourth vote of the conference members present at a National conference session that meets the “Special Quorum for Amendments” requirements is required for approval.

### **802 SPECIAL QUORUM FOR AMENDMENTS**

The National Conference may only vote on amendments properly brought before it when at least two-thirds of the members of the conference are present, excluding all absent members in the following categories: Supernumerary, Superannuated, and Ministers in Related Fields.

### **803 EXCEPTIONS**

The National Conference may amend any Chapter of the *Discipline* according to the above procedure subject to the following:

#### **803.1 Articles of Faith**

The Articles of Faith shall not be changed in form or substance unless two-thirds of all congregations give their approval by a two-thirds vote of the members present at a congregational meeting properly called to consider a change in the Articles of Faith. The approval of the congregations must be secured and reported no later than sixty days prior to the next National Conference.

#### **803.2 Paragraph 324**

The provisions in paragraph 324 “The Congregation and Its Property” shall not be changed unless two-thirds of all congregations shall give their approval by a two-thirds vote of the members present at a congregational meeting properly called to consider a change in this paragraph of the *Discipline*. The approval of the congregations must be secured and reported no later than sixty days prior to the next National Conference.

#### **803.3 The Itinerant System**

The Itinerant system shall not be abolished unless two-thirds of all congregations give their approval by a two-thirds vote of the members present at a congregational meeting properly called to consider the abolition of the system. The approval of the congregations must be secured and reported no later than sixty days prior to the next National Conference.

#### **803.4 Chapter Seven**

“Part Seven: National Conference Commissions and Affiliates” may be amended upon recommendation by the National Ministry Team at any National Conference session by simple majority vote of the members present.

### **804 PROXY VOTING**

The voting required in paragraph 803 may be in person or by written proxy, received by the secretary of the meeting where the vote is to be taken at least three days prior to the vote.