

V. ENABLING LEGISLATION

(Adopted 1996 Annual Conference)
(Reaffirmed 1997 Annual Conference)

One: The Conference Council on Ministries recommends the adoption of the Conference Enterprise, “Together in the Journey,” as the strategy of the Annual Conference, in order to accomplish the following five dynamics:

- Strengthening local congregations and networks of congregations for their ministry and mission in context, locally and globally;
- Making disciples of Jesus Christ as the primary work of local congregations;
- Developing a permission-giving, learning organization at every level of the Annual Conference;
- Identifying missional imperatives and creating networks to effectively engage in them; and
- Establishing leadership development strategies which would include, but not be limited to “leadership university,” teaching congregations, and mentoring relationships with clergy and laity.

Two: The Conference Council on Ministries, aware of the needs of children here and around the world, recommends that Child Advocacy be the first missional imperative of the Annual Conference.

Three: The Conference Council on Ministries recommends that the Annual Conference suspend the rules regarding the nomination and election process applicable to the program agencies of the Annual Conference, effective immediately upon the adoption of this recommendation, in order to create a responsive and flexible organization, consistent with the actions of the 1996 General Conference. The General Conference action enables each Annual Conference to organize pursuant to its missional need, while maintaining connectionalism and inclusiveness at every level. The Conference Council on Ministries will report to the 1997 session of the Annual Conference, accounting for ministries accomplished, networks formed, funds utilized, and making recommendations as needed to continue the transition.

Four: The Conference Council on Ministries recommends that the Annual Conference suspend the rules regarding the structure of the Annual Conference in order to facilitate new legislation, applicable to the structure of the Annual Conference, approved by the General Conference in the 1996 session at Denver, Colorado, April 16th-26th. A full report regarding the implementation of this legislation and the emerging shape of mission in the Annual Conference will be made to the 1997 session of the Annual Conference. All of these matters, related to the developing structure of the Conference, will be directed by the Management Team¹ in consultation with the Bishop, the Cabinet, and the Council on Ministries.

¹ The Management Team was established by the 1995 session of the Central Pennsylvania Conference, *The Central Pennsylvania Conference Journal*, p. 479.