

Resolution Concerning Churches Nearby to Network

Whereas, Romans 12:16 states “ Live in harmony with one another.” which reminds us of the the importance of fellowship and unity within the church; and

Whereas, in the NCCUMC, many youth groups are within close proximity to each other; and

Whereas, despite their closeness these youth groups have very few interactions throughout the year, and would maybe see each other even less if not for youth retreats; and

Whereas, If youth groups make the decision to meet up more often, it would open the door to having more fellowship among the youth; and

Whereas, it would help further build friendships made at youth retreats that are faltered because of the time gap; and

Therefore, be it resolved that we, the 74th Annual Conference Session for Youth of the North Carolina Conference of the United Methodist Church, encourage the youth pastors to have their youth groups meet up with others youth groups nearby more frequently.

Therefore, be it further resolved that this resolution be sent to the District Superintendents to be distributed among the clergy of the district.

Resolution Concerning the Selection of Pilgrimage Speakers

Whereas, Proverbs 15:22 says “Plans go wrong for lack of advice; many advisers bring success.”; and

Whereas, the speakers selected by the Pilgrimage Design Team are not necessarily the most interesting and appealing to many youth; and

Whereas, ensuring that the Pilgrimage speaker is one that most youth are interested in and can connect to will lead to greater interest in the event; and

Whereas, all youth should have a voice in the planning the most popular conference event of the year;

Therefore, be it resolved that any youth in the conference, or any member of the Pilgrimage Design Team, may nominate speakers; and

Therefore, be it resolved that any nominated speakers who are interested to speaking at Pilgrimage must send a video of at least two minutes to Pilgrimage Design Team that will inform the youth about the nominee so that youth who may not know the nominee can make a more informed decision; and

Therefore, be it further resolved that the Pilgrimage speaker be selected by the following process: Each youth in each district will be allowed to vote for one of the nominated speakers. Each district’s votes will be counted separately. The two speakers that win the most districts will be selected to speak at Pilgrimage; and

Therefore, be it further resolved that nomination and voting are each open for at least two weeks to ensure most conference youth are able to participate; and

Therefore, be it further resolved that, unless the two speakers who win the most districts are the only ones tied, any ties will be broken by removing all other nominees and having a one week long voting period between only the tied nominees; and

Therefore, be it further resolved that if voting remains tied the Pilgrimage Design Team will break the tie as they see fit; and

Therefore, be it further resolved that the Pilgrimage Design Team will be in charge of ensuring that the selection of Pilgrimage speakers follows this process; and

Therefore, be it further resolved that this resolution will take effect beginning with Pilgrimage 2026; and

Therefore, be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be sent to all members of the Pilgrimage Design Team for Pilgrimage 2026.

Resolution Concerning AI Use & Curriculum in NC Public Schools

Whereas, The United Methodist Church has officially stated that it encourages the exploration and use of AI, including educating people on how to use it responsibly and ethically; and

Whereas, Exodus 31:3-5 states "and I have filled him with the Spirit of God, with wisdom, with understanding, with knowledge and with all kinds of skills— to make artistic designs for work in gold, silver and bronze, to cut and set stones, to work in wood, and to engage in all kinds of crafts." This passage illustrates how God encourages the pursuit of new skills and knowledge; and

Whereas, between 2019 and 2022, there was a 33% average increase in demand for AI skills across 14 countries in North America, Europe, and the Pacific; and

Whereas, as of 2024, 75% of surveyed workers reported using AI in their workplace, with 46% adopting it within the last six months; and

Whereas, North Carolina public schools do not currently have a standardized curriculum for AI education, despite the growing importance of AI literacy in the workforce; and

Whereas, incorporating AI education in public schools would provide students with a competitive advantage in their careers while also ensuring they understand the ethical implications of AI usage, maintaining academic, professional, and moral integrity.

Therefore, be it resolved that we, the 74th Annual Conference Session for Youth of the North Carolina Conference of the United Methodist Church, urge that all North Carolina public schools implement a curriculum on artificial intelligence, covering both practical AI skills and ethical considerations, and further request that North Carolina public school teachers be encouraged to integrate AI into their teaching to provide students with hands-on experience; and

Therefore, be it further resolved that this resolution shall be sent to the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction, North Carolina's Superintendent of Public Instruction, Mo Green; the North Carolina Association of Educators; and The State Board of Education Chairman, Eric Davis.

Resolution Concerning an Interchurch Sports League

Whereas, Psalms 133:1 says “ Behold, how good and pleasant it is when brothers dwell together in unity”; and

Whereas, This verse highlights the goodness that can come through fellowship and unity, which naturally happen during team bonding activities such as sports; and

Whereas, there are currently not many ways for youth to socialize with other youth within their district; and

Whereas, the creation of an interchurch sports league would give youth the opportunity to meet other youth within the district and form new bonds of friendship; and

Whereas, this sports league would be for many different sports, such as volleyball, baseball, basketball, etc. allowing for many people to participate in their favorite sport.

Therefore, be it resolved that we, the 74th Annual Conference Session for Youth of the North Carolina Conference of the United Methodist Church, make the request for there to be an Interchurch Sports league; and

Therefore, be it further resolved that this resolution be sent to all District Youth Coordinators.

Resolution concerning a Conference-Wide Confirmation Age

Whereas, about confirmation, the Book of Discipline says “Preparation for the experience of profession of faith and confirmation shall be provided for all people... Youth who are completing the sixth grade shall normally be the youngest people recruited for such preparation”; and

Whereas, many churches across the conference begin confirmation at various ages; and

Whereas, setting a constant age to offer confirmation across the conference would ensure that all youth in our conference are able to be confirmed;

Therefore, be it resolved that we the 74th Annual Conference for the Youth of the North Carolina Conference of the United Methodist Church urge That all churches across the North Carolina Conference of the United Methodist Church (NCCUMC) offer confirmation for all youth by the time they complete the seventh grade.

Therefore, be it further resolved that this resolution be sent to the 2026 NCCUMC Annual Conference.

Resolution on Separating Youth Annual Conference Session from Breakaway

Whereas, Paragraph 226.5 of the 2020/2024 Book of Discipline says “Youth who are members of the Church have all rights and responsibilities of church membership within the baptismal covenant;” and

Whereas, Romans 12:4-5 says “For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another;” and

Whereas, separating Youth Annual Conference Session from Breakaway would allow youth to benefit more from focused participation in each event, as opposed to when they are combined; and

Whereas, separating Youth Annual Conference Session from Breakaway gives youth more of a choice in how they are involved with the church and the future of church; and

Whereas, creating a space for youth with a specific interest in the Youth Annual Conference Session processes currently contained in Legislative Affairs during Breakaway to participate without distractions from those who do not share that interest would foster more meaningful discussions and more effective decision-making;

Therefore, be it resolved that we, the 74th Annual Conference for the Youth of the North Carolina Conference of the United Methodist Church urge that the Youth Annual Conference Session is removed from Breakaway and put into a separate, new event; and

Therefore, be it further resolved that all professing members of a congregation in the North Carolina Conference of the United Methodist Church (NCCUMC) who have completed the 9th grade are eligible to attend; and

Therefore, be it further resolved that all youth who have completed at least the 7th grade and have been confirmed in and are processing members of an NCCUMC congregation are also eligible to attend; and

Therefore, be it further resolved that the Conference Committee on Youth Ministries (CCYM) collaborate with the NCCUMC Operations Team with the goal of creating to occur starting in either 2026 or 2027; and

Therefore, be it further resolved that the event be given a new name that will help create a new identity for the event; and

Therefore, be it further resolved that this resolution be sent to the incoming CCYM and the NCCUMC Operations Team.

Resolution Concerning the Operations team providing the Youth Secretary with Canva Pro access

Whereas, Exodus 35:35 states “He has filled them with the skill to do every sort of work done by an engraver or by a designer”; and

Whereas, the conference Youth Secretary is responsible for overseeing all communication functions, including developing and designing promotional materials and graphics to promote conference events and other necessary communications on behalf of the Youth Conference; and

Whereas, effective and professional communication is vital to maintaining a consistent organizational brand, promoting events and sharing important information with youth; and

Whereas, most of these communications are distributed via the NCCUMC Youth Instagram and Facebook pages; and

Whereas, many of the graphics and promotional materials posted on these Instagram and Facebook pages are created using Canva, a user-friendly design platform with accessible templates; and

Whereas, many inviting and useful design templates, brand kits, premium templates, and collaborative tools are only available through Canva Pro, which offers a wider range of features that would enhance the quality, consistency, and efficiency of the Secretary’s and Communications Committee’s work; and

Whereas, these features that canva pro have to offer would significantly enhance the quality, consistency, and the efficiency of the secretary's work and the whole communications committee; and

Whereas, the lack of access to a professional design platform may limit the secretary's ability to produce high-quality graphic materials necessary for effective communication;

Therefore be it resolved, that we the 74th Annual Conference Session for Youth of the United Methodist church urge the Operations Team to create and maintain designated Canva Pro account for the Youth Conference, granting access to the secretary to fulfill their responsibilities and provide quality graphics; and

Therefore be it further resolved, that this Canva pro account shall be renewed annually and transferred to each incoming Secretary to ensure the continuation of of quality communication resources; and

Therefore be further resolved, that this resolution be sent to the NCCUMC Operations team and the 2025-26 Youth Secretary.

Resolution Concerning halting the privatization of America's National Parks

Whereas, The Bible states in Psalm 24:1 "The earth is the Lord's, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it,"; and

Whereas, Theodore Roosevelt said this when visiting the Grand Canyon national park in 1903 "Leave it as it is. You cannot improve on it. The ages have been at work on it, and man can only mar it. What you can do is to keep it for your children, your children's children, and for all who come after you, as one of the great sights which every American, if he can travel at all, should see."; and

Whereas, Theodore Roosevelt used his executive power to nearly double the size of the national park system and increase protections of American Natural Lands and Historic Landmarks; and

Whereas, The Trump Administration has chosen to sell of areas of the National Parks to corporations with profit motives that will aim for entertainment venues and resorts for the extremely wealthy with little regard for public service and absence of congressional oversight; and

Whereas, Trump's plan is to severely lower the budget of The National Park Service (NPS); and

Whereas, \$275 million of the Inflation Reduction Act funding was eliminated; and

Whereas, this money was to be used to fill critical staffing needs at the NPS; and

Whereas as of last year, park service staffing was already down 20% compared to 2010; and

Whereas, after the Trump Administration took office this year NPS staffing levels have been reduced further by 13% due to forced buyouts or early retirements; and

Whereas, without sufficient staffing we are likely to see large negative impacts to resource preservation, search and rescue operations and wildfire management; and

Whereas, the Trump administration is pushing the land to be used for oil and gas operations
Whereas, A provision sale was held in Alaska earlier this year and nobody bid on it yet these provisions continue to be largely pushed forward and focused on; and

Whereas, The bill has made it considerably more expensive to develop wind and solar energy further harming the environment and actually raising energy prices and

Whereas, the bill mandates the US Forest Service to double the amount of timber sales it offers which is on top of the administration's push to open up 60% of our national forests - over 112 million acres for logging operations; and

Whereas, The National Parks Traveler has reported that logging on private land is overproducing timber by 53% flooding the market with timber from public lands would only drive the price down and hurt the private timber industry; and

Whereas, The continued attacks on NEPA or National Environmental Policy Act would allow companies to fast track their environmental reviews completely bypassing premier environmental law and eliminating judicial review completely.

Whereas, National Parks speak to who we are as a Country and for more than a century our country has taken great pride in the beauty of our National Parks; and

Whereas, After more than 100 years of protecting these lands the Trump Administration has decided to disrupt and ruin them; and

Whereas, Steps are being taken to remove barriers to drilling and mining on these public lands; and

Whereas, Abandoning our national parks like this would ruin local economies that depend on tourism; and

Whereas, great and extensive care is taken to protect the species (some endangered) living in these parks and to abandon all efforts to protect these parks would be to abandon all efforts to protect these lives; and

Therefore, be it resolved that we The 74th Annual Conference Session for the Youth of the North Carolina Conference of the United Methodist Church, strongly urge that the United States Senate and United States House of Representatives reject any measures of this bill that would take away staffing, and safe environments of these public lands; and

Therefore, be it further resolved that this resolution be sent to the United States House of Representatives and the United States Senate.

Resolution Concerning the Encouragement of Large NCCUMC Congregations to Host Smaller Congregations

Whereas, the bible states in Romans 15:1-2 “We who are strong ought to bear with the failings of the weak and not to please ourselves. **2** Each of us should please our neighbors for their good, to build them up.”; and

Whereas, there are many congregations within the NCCUMC that lack the necessary funding or resources to attend youth events such as Pilgrimage and Breakaway; and

Whereas, these larger congregations could help financially support smaller ones enabling them to attend these events; and

Whereas, congregations that lack the resources to attend these events are possibly losing growth in their relationship with the Lord; and

Whereas, this banding together of churches simultaneously spreads the love of Christ and the growth of new friendships; and

Therefore, be it resolved the we, the 74th Annual Conference Session for the Youth of the North Carolina Conference of the United Methodist Church, strongly urge and encourage the support of smaller and less financially strong congregations to be supported by larger congregations as to enable them to attend Youth Events; and

Therefore, be it further resolved that this resolution shall be sent to NCCUMC Bishop Connie Shelton, And the 2025-2026 Youth Vice President.

Resolution Concerning changing tables in all North Carolina bathrooms

Whereas, the United Methodist Social Principles (2016) 162 states “We recognize that men’s role in raising children is in equal importance to women’s and call for equal rights as women”; and

Whereas, modern families increasingly reflect diverse caregiving roles, with fathers, mothers, grandparents, guardians, and caregivers of all gender identities playing active and essential parts in childcare; and

Whereas, the absence of changing tables in certain restrooms especially those traditionally labeled for men or designated as gender neutral creates an unequal and inconvenient experience for many caregivers, often forcing them to change diapers in unsanitary or inappropriate places such as restroom floors, car trunks, or not at all; and

Whereas, this lack of adequate facilities discourages participation in caregiving responsibilities for many individuals and reinforces outdated stereotypes about gender and parenting roles; and

Whereas, ensuring access to changing tables in all restrooms including men’s, women’s, and gender neutral restrooms promotes inclusivity and respects the dignity of all families, regardless of their structure or the gender identity of caregivers; and

Whereas, accessible restroom facilities directly benefit children by ensuring their hygiene needs are met promptly and safely, regardless of which caregiver is present; and

whereas, communities, businesses, and federal buildings under the babies act have successfully implemented changing tables in all restrooms, proving this change to be possible, affordable, and publicly supported;

Therefore be it resolved, that we the 74th Annual Conference Session for Youth of the North Carolina Conference of the United Methodist Church, urges all public and private facilities in North Carolina including restaurants, stores, parks, airports, and government buildings to install changing tables in all restrooms where the public may need them, including men’s, women’s, and gender neutral restrooms, to accommodate caregivers of all genders;

Therefore be it further resolved, that this resolution be sent to the governor of North Carolina Josh Stein, the North Carolina general assembly, and the North Carolina department of health and human services for consideration in future state building codes and public accommodation regulations

Resolution Concerning more activities are held at Breakaway

Whereas, during Breakaway, the two main activities that are held during free time are the youth vs. staff basketball and volleyball game; and

Whereas, for the people that don't like either they are left with limited options; and

Whereas, while there are clubs held by staff, these are not consistent throughout the years like the basketball and volleyball games, meaning that these clubs do not have the same anticipation as the basketball and volleyball games.

Therefore, be it resolved that we, the 74th Annual Conference Session for Youth of the North Carolina Conference of the United Methodist Church, push to make more activities available during free time at Breakaway; and

Therefore, be it further resolved that this resolution be sent to the Overall Dean of Breakaway, and the Breakaway Design Team.

Resolution Concerning Outreach to less active congregations in NCCUMC

Whereas, the bible states in Matthew 28:19 “Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of The Father, The Son, and The Holy Spirit”;and

Whereas, many churches in the North Carolina Conference remain with no attendance of Youth events and activities; and

Whereas, The number of participants in elections to hold positions in CYC and CCYM have dwindled throughout the few past years; and

Whereas, More outreach to churches invites more youth to attend events which leads to them holding position in CYC and CCYM; and

Whereas, More participants in youth events also entails more engagement and opinion in activities such as legislative affairs; and

Whereas, events such as Pilgrimage and Breakaway could be the spark a person needs to invite god into their lives; and

Whereas, members of congregations that are not aware of youth events are possibly missing out on strengthening their relationship with Christ;

Therefore, be it resolved that we, the 74th Annual Conference Session for the Youth of the North Carolina Conference of the United Methodist Church, Strongly urge and encourage outreach to congregations that are not active participants in the North Carolina Conference of the United Methodist Church; and

Therefore be it further resolved, that this resolution shall be sent to NCCUMC Bishop Connie Shelton, the 2025-2026 Youth Secretary, the 2025-2026 Youth Vice President and all current DYC’s.

Resolution Concerning AI Workshops Hosted by NCCUMC Churches for Communities

Whereas, The United Methodist Church acknowledges the rapid advancement of artificial intelligence and encourages efforts to equip individuals with the knowledge and skills needed to navigate technological changes in an ethical and responsible manner, as stated in its Social Principles; and

Whereas, Proverbs 4:7 states "The beginning of wisdom is this: Get wisdom, and whatever else you get, get insight." emphasizing the importance of continual learning and gaining knowledge to adapt to the challenges and opportunities of the modern world; and

Whereas, the World Economic Forum's Future of Jobs Report 2025 predicts that by 2030, 92 million jobs may be displaced due to technological advancements, but 170 million new roles may emerge; and

Whereas, as of 2024, a survey conducted by the Pew Research Center found that 52% of U.S. workers believe AI will significantly impact their jobs in the next decade, yet only 12.24% report having received any formal training on AI tools and their applications in the workplace; and

Whereas, many individuals, particularly in underserved communities, lack access to AI education and training, limiting their ability to remain competitive in the evolving workforce; and

Whereas, churches have historically served as centers for education, skill-building, and community outreach, providing a natural space for hosting workforce development initiatives.

Therefore, be it resolved that we, the 74th Annual Conference Session for Youth of the North Carolina Conference of the United Methodist Church, encourage churches within the NCCUMC to offer space within their facilities to host AI training workshops for individuals in their communities. Churches are encouraged to utilize qualified individuals from their congregations or partner with local organizations, businesses, and educational institutions to provide these training opportunities, ensuring that community members have access to practical AI knowledge that can help them secure and retain employment; and

Therefore, be it further resolved that this resolution be sent to the 2026 North Carolina Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church, Bishop Connie Shelton, District Superintendents, and Pastor(s) in-charge in the North Carolina Conference of the United Methodist Church.

Resolution Concerning opposition to Executive Orders in regard to Oil and Gas Mining in Colorado

Whereas, the Bible states in Genesis 2:15 “The Lord God took the man and put him in The Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it.”; and

Whereas, Donald Trump’s executive order hopes to reduce the time it would take be granted a permit to mine oil and purchase land, thus streamlining a process that would otherwise take years; and

Whereas, Within the flurry of executive orders signed in January were actions to block wind and solar energy development on public lands, meaning despite Trump’s claims that this agenda will lower energy prices, it will actually increase our dependence on fossil fuels at the cost of public lands, communities and the climate; and

Whereas, oil and fossil fuel companies drill when it is more profitable not when they have extra land to use; and

Whereas, as of 2023, 46% of the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) lands leased to the oil and gas industry are not being used for production; and

Whereas, When the companies hold this land vacant and unused it prevents development of outdoor recreation, wildlife conservation or renewable energy industries; and

Whereas, The Trump administration despite claims of an “energy emergency” are halting progress on wind and solar energy projects; and

Whereas, oil and gas companies have shown countless times that they prioritize money and production over the health and safety of Americans and wildlife; and

Whereas, we know that Earth’s climate has fluctuated over the millennia but the burning of fossil fuels has especially warmed and thus harmed our climate; and

Whereas, The plan to increase oil production and drilling will likely harm some already endangered species in Colorado and countless other wildlife; and

Therefore, be it resolved that we, the 74th Annual Conference Session for the Youth of the North Carolina Conference of the United Methodist Church, strongly urge all efforts to expedite oil and gas production by streamlining the permitting process. And further request that Renewable

energy sources and projects such as wind and solar farms be not halted but further encouraged;
and

Therefore, be it further resolved that this resolution shall be sent to Governor Jared Polis of Colorado, The gas conservation commission, The Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment, The Colorado General Assembly, The United States House of Representatives and The United States Senate.

Resolution concerning Safe Firearm Storage

Whereas The UMC board of church and society says “All forms of violence are detestable, God deploras violence. Jesus calls us to be peacemakers. Guns make violence more deadly and more frequent.” and

Whereas according to the ATF the definition of a firearm is “any weapon (including a starter gun) which will or is designed to or may readily be converted to expel a projectile by the action of an explosive; The frame or receiver of any such weapon; Any firearm muffler or firearm silencer; or Any destructive device.” and

Whereas according to The Virginia Department of Criminal Justices in the past 50 years in the United States of America, the average age of all school shooters is 16 and

Whereas according to federal law the minimum age for purchasing a gun is 18. And

Whereas according to the American Academy of Pediatrics 42% of all school shooters acquire their weapons from family members. And

Whereas according to Pew Research Center, Only 36% of gun owners say that their guns are kept in a locked and safe place. And

Therefore, be it resolved that we, the 74th Annual Conference Session for Youth of the North Carolina Conference of the United Methodist Church call for proof of lockable firearm storage before any purchases of firearms and

Therefore be it further resolved that this resolution be sent to The Acting Director of the ATF Daniel Driscoll, US Senator Ted Budd and Thom Tillis