

## **(Operational, Policy and Organizational)**

### **CHANGE IN REGIONAL BOUNDARIES**

#### **CREATION OF A NEW REGION IN MONTANA AND THE NORTHWEST**

**Whereas** after more than a year of discernment, study, prayer and preparation, the Regional Assembly of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in Montana meeting on April 28, 2018 and the Regional Assembly of the Northwest Regional Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) meeting on May 19, 2018 voted unanimously to create a New Region of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) to encompass Alaska, Washington State, North Idaho<sup>1</sup> and Montana

**WHEREAS**, the Office of the General Minister and President has received proper notification from each region expressing the desire for these new regional boundaries and the new region

**WHEREAS**, *The Design* states:

22. Regions of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) perform within their established boundaries the function of the church related to their twofold purpose of mission and nurture:

27. Identifiable geographic, cultural, sociological, and political factors provide boundaries, which the church may use to establish its own regional structures

(1) By which the church carries out regionally its ministry of mission and nurture;

(2) In which congregations and ministers find their primary relationships of mutual support and encouragement;

(3) Which provide opportunities for regional fellowship, worship, and assembly for the consideration of matters of mutual concern;

(4) Which help to relate the three expressions of the church - congregational, regional, and general - to one another in the functioning of the whole church; and

**WHEREAS**, *The Design* also states:

29. In the development of any new regional boundaries, existing regional organizations shall remain intact, subject to modification by mutual consent of the regions involved, in the light of the corporate judgment of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) as expressed through the General Assembly. The process of reshaping regional boundaries (even if only one congregation is affected) includes the participation and approval of the parties involved, the Administrative Committee, the General Board, and the General Assembly; and

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<sup>1</sup> *North Idaho includes Benewah, Bonner, Boundary, Clearwater, Kootenai, Latah, Lewis, Nezperce and Shoshone counties in Idaho*

**WHEREAS**, this resolution was presented to and affirmed by the Governance Committee and the General Board at their meetings Feb 9<sup>th</sup> 2019 , 2019

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the 2019 General Assembly of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the United States and Canada meeting in Des Moines, Iowa, July 20-24, 2019 affirm the regional boundaries of the Northwest Regional Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) and the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in Montana be joined together to form a new region, Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the Northern Lights Region, effective Jan. 1, 2020.

Submitted by the Governance Committee of the General Board and the Northwest Regional Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) and the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in Montana

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