

BOARD RECOMMENDATION BYLAW ADJUSTMENT OUTLINED

FOR MOSAIC DELEGATE ASSEMBLY 2025

A question has been raised regarding whether the September 2025 recommendation by the Mosaic Mennonite Conference Board is an action to change the bylaws.

The Conference Board wants to be clear that the Board's recommendation "to discontinue Mosaic Mennonite Conference's membership with Mennonite Church USA and cultivate healthy mutual partnerships with Mennonite Church USA, Mennonite World Conference, and other Anabaptist communities," implicitly suggests a change to the Mosaic Mennonite Conference bylaws.

It is the Conference Board's position that approval of the recommended action is a vote to change the bylaws to incorporate the changed in the relationship between Mosaic Mennonite Conference and Mennonite Church USA.

If passed by more than two-thirds of the Mosaic Mennonite Conference delegates, the recommended action will alter the bylaws as displayed below:

ARTICLE III – MEMBERSHIP (p. 2)

Section 3.01. Conference Relationship with the Denomination. The Conference is a member of Mennonite Church USA. The Conference shall appoint delegates and representatives to the MC USA Delegate Assembly, the Constituency Leaders Council, and to other leadership bodies, as appropriate, to provide a link for matters of mutual concern and for effective church wide decision making. See the Bylaws of the Mennonite Church USA for further details. The Conference seeks to cultivate healthy mutual partnerships with Mennonite Church USA, Mennonite World Conference, and other Anabaptist communities.

<u>Section 3.02. Congregational Relationships with the Denomination.</u> The local congregation is the basic organizational unit of area conference members of Mennonite Church USA. The congregation is God's people with a common confession of Christ uniting in worship, nurture, fellowship, proclamation, service, discernment, reconciliation, and mutual care and discipline. It is a local group of believers whose commitment to Christ and to each other and whose proximity to each other make it possible to experience these activities on a regular and continuing basis.

Section 3.03. Congregational Derived Membership in Mennonite Church USA. Congregations automatically derive and attain membership in Mennonite Church USA through their membership in the Conference as a member of Mennonite Church USA. See the Bylaws of the Mennonite Church USA for further details. However, tThe board authorizes congregations to determine congregational membership status in Mennonite Church USA.

ARTICLE IV – DELEGATE ASSEMBLY (p. 7)

D. Conference Related Ministries may select one (1) voting Delegate per member organization. Delegates shall be members of the CRM's Board of Directors or staff and a member of a Mennonite Church USA Mosaic Mennonite Conference congregation.

<u>Section 4.04. Qualifications.</u> Delegates shall be persons who are members of a Conference congregation (or a <u>Mennonite Church USA Mosaic Mennonite Conference</u> congregation, in the case of Conference Related Ministries), and, preferably, who are actively involved in the life and work of the congregation or the Conference, and who manifest spiritual discernment, mature judgement, and a commitment to following Jesus.

Color Key:

Red strikethrough = removal
Green underline = addition