

**CONSTITUTION OF
THE ASSOCIATION OF CONFERENCE DIRECTORS OF
LAY SPEAKING MINISTRIES
OF THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
(MARCH 1, 2011)**

I. NAME

The name of this organization shall be the Association of Conference Directors of Lay Speaking Ministries of The United Methodist Church (hereinafter referred to as (“the Association”).

II. PURPOSE

The purpose of the Association of Conference Directors of Lay Speaking Ministries organization is to support and enable conference directors of Lay Speaking Ministries in the conduct of their ministries of leadership. The Association is an advocate and advisor for Lay Speaking Ministries to the General Board of Discipleship and assists in promoting their programs. The Association must enable and promote the partnership in ministry between the laity and clergy to fulfill the work of Jesus Christ.

III. DURATION

The duration of the Association is perpetual.

IV. MEMBERSHIP

The membership of the Association shall consist of the following:

- a. All conference directors, except that current elected officers who leave their conference position may serve out their current term;
- b. A liaison representative of the General Board of Discipleship that relates to Lay Speaking Ministries;
- c. The immediate past president of the Association;
- d. The management of the Association shall be vested in its members.
- e. Immediate Past Conference Directors of Lay Speaking Ministries and current District Directors of Lay Speaking Ministries shall be Associate Members of the Association, having no vote, but may have voice at the Annual Meeting when recognized by the presiding officer.
- f. Current Conference Directors of Lay Speaking Ministries who will not attend general membership meetings shall have the right to delegate voting rights to an Associate Member of his/her conference by name, providing that formal written delegation is received by the President or presiding officer prior to the vote.

V. BY-LAWS

The by-laws of the association may be adopted, amended, enlarged or replaced by a majority vote of the members of the Association present at its general meeting provided that proposed amendments shall be submitted in writing to the secretary prior to a general meeting, in time for the secretary to distribute the proposed changes to the membership at least one month prior to the general meeting.

VI. AMENDMENTS

This Constitution may be amended by the affirmative vote of two-thirds of the voting members present at any annual or special meeting of the Association. Proposed amendments must be submitted in writing to the voting members with the notification of all meetings at least 30 days prior to such meeting. Amendments adopted shall become effective immediately upon adjournment of the annual or special meeting.

VII. DISSOLUTION

In the event of dissolution of the Association, any assets which might exist shall be contributed to the Lay Speaking Ministries budget of the General Board of Discipleship of the United Methodist Church. In no event shall any assets of the Association inure to the benefit of any officer or member of the Association or any other private individual.