

JOINT DISTRIBUTING COMMITTEE RETIREMENT/WELFARE PLAN STATEMENT  
MICHIGAN CONFERENCE

RECOMMENDATION TO DESIGN TEAM  
NOVEMBER 10, 2016

**VISION**

The Michigan Conference will sponsor retirement (pension) and welfare (disability/death benefit) plans in support of clergy and their families; conference lay employees; and other church workers serving related conference agencies in accordance with The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church.

**VALUES**

***Appropriate Benefits:***

The conference will enroll all eligible participants in United Methodist denominational retirement and welfare plans and will make all appropriate contributions according to the mandatory requirements of the plans. In situations where the conference has the authority to elect the criteria for participant eligibility and/or coverage regarding specific clergy appointments or lay employees, the conference will seek to provide fair and equitable value for all.

**OBJECTIVES**

***Authority:***

The Conference Board of Pension & Health Benefits (CBOPHB) shall have charge of the interests and work of providing for and contributing to the support, relief, assistance, and pensioning of all eligible participants, except as otherwise provided for by the general board. The CBOPHB will have charge of the use of existing reserves and/or trust funds designated for the purpose of providing benefits.

***Responsibilities:***

The CBOPHB shall have the powers and responsibilities with respect to Wespath Benefits and Investments (formerly the General Board of Pension & Health Benefits) as described in The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church. This includes but is not limited to executing adoption agreements; participant enrollments; remitting contributions; the appointment status, classification, and conference relationship of clergy; reporting compensation; determining approval for pension credit; recommending the Past Service Rate (PSR) for Pre-82 years of service.



## Design Team

Michigan Conference

THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

### ***Annual Budget and Expenses:***

The CBOPHB will develop a funding plan based on a participant/total compensation ratio (direct bill or apportionment) which will be established and distributed amongst all conference and related entities.

### ***Prior Year Outstanding Balances:***

As required by The Book of Discipline a permanent record of unpaid pension/benefit balances will be kept on file by the CBOPHB, with the intention to recover the balances from the responsible entity. If left unaddressed, these balances must become part of a local church's financial plan when considering building expansion, merger, closure and/or new start.

Approved by JDC  
11/09/16

# Draft