WHEREAS: Under Standards of the Annual Conference, page 1-71 under the section “Commission on Equitable Compensation-Median Cash Salary” Section A requires the Commission to report the median cash salary for the current year. Section B requires the creation of new minimum salary schedules based on years of service of clergy for the current year.

WHEREAS: With the COVID-19 pandemic, churches have not been allowed to hold worship services and have had to reduce in person attendance at other meetings. Giving and tithing has been reduced at most churches because of job loss or reduction in personal income of members of the congregations.

WHEREAS: The timeframe for returning to normal economic conditions and worship is unknown. Increasing clergy compensation would increase the financial strain to churches.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: the Commission on Equitable Compensation proposes Standard regarding an annual calculation of the Median Cash Salary, on page I-71 of the 2019 Journal, Section A and Section B be suspended for this year, resulting in no increase in Median Cash Salary or the clergy minimum salary tables for 2021.

RULES CHANGES

RULES 20-01 | TECHNICAL/VIRTUAL CONFERENCE SESSIONS
SECRETARY’S NOTE: This rule change was submitted to the Rules Committee, but the Committee did not reach consensus on a recommendation.

Add Rule V.C.9

9. Should unexpected circumstances prevent physical gathering for an Annual Session, the Sessions Task Force under the direction of the Bishop may establish technical/virtual means to gather and to carry out the business of the Annual Conference. This must include methods to experience worship, participate in debate (including ways to perfect legislation), and vote. Security measures must be included to ensure the integrity of voting.

RULES 20-02 | ENDOWMENT AND LYNCH FUNDS
Fiscal Rules XII

I. Conference Endowment and Trust Funds
The Board of Pension & Health Benefits is the recipient of the income from the Conference Endowment Fund and the Frank and Georgia Lynch Trust Fund. The funds received by the Board from these sources shall be used for the benefit of Conference Claimants and/or Annuitants upon the recommendation of the Conference Board of Pension & Health Benefits and the approval of the Conference.

J. Frank and Georgia Lynch Fund
1. The Conference Endowment Fund is named beneficiary in trust provisions contained in the wills of Frank Lynch and Georgia Lynch, both of whom were members of the First United Methodist Church, San Diego, California. At the present time, the trusts are administered by named trustees and the annual income is paid over to the Board or Agency administering the Conference Endowment Fund for payment in full to the Board of Pension & Health Benefits.

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