



# Committee on Faith and Order

## The United Methodist Church®

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### **The United Methodist Church Committee on Faith and Order Holds Its Inaugural Meeting**

The Inaugural Meeting of The United Methodist Church Committee on Faith and Order met in Arlington, Virginia, March 26–27, 2009. This committee was formed through legislation at the 2008 General Conference. Its purpose is to “give leadership to The United Methodist Church in reflecting upon, discerning and living out matters of faith, doctrinal teaching, order, and discipline in the midst of mission and ministry in the church and the world.” ¶ 1908 *Book of Discipline*.

The Committee on Faith and Order is composed of 24 members, who were nominated by the Council of Bishops, the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry, the General Commission on Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns (GCCUIC), and the Association of United Methodist Theological Schools. Bishop Sharon Zimmerman Rader, Ecumenical Officer of the Council of Bishops, convened and presided at the meeting. During the meeting, the body elected Bishop David Yemba, bishop of Central Congo Area, the Democratic Republic of Central Congo, as its chair.

At this first meeting, the members heard four presentations: Dr. Bruce Robbins, Former General Secretary of the GCCUIC, on “Glimpses” of the History of the Faith and Order Work of The United Methodist Church; Bishop William Oden, Immediate Past Ecumenical Officer of the Council of Bishops, on the Proposal to 2008 General Conference; Dr. Stephen J. Sidorak, Jr., General Secretary of the GCCUIC, on Faith and Order/Life and Work and Church Dividing Issues; and Dr. Sarah Heaner Lancaster, Professor of Theology in the Hazen G. Werner Chair of Theology at Methodist Theological School in Ohio and Co-moderator of the Ecclesiology Working Group of the Faith and Order Commission of the World Council of Churches, on The State of Ecclesiology. The long-term service of The Methodist Church/The United Methodist Church to the ecumenical movement was noted, as well as its current involvement in the Faith and Order work of the World Council of Churches and the National Council of Churches of Christ in the USA. The historic longing for a venue to reflect theologically in an authoritative capacity within The United Methodist Church has now been realized.

The Committee elected two classes, those who will serve 2009-2012 and those who will serve 2009-2016. The members also elected six members to the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee met immediately following the adjournment of the Committee on Faith and Order to develop a reading list, make assignments, discuss ways to meet electronically on a regular basis, and to discipline itself spiritually by the creation of a cycle of prayer within its membership.

The membership list of the new Committee on Faith and Order appears below.

By Betty Gamble  
Interim Associate General Secretary  
General Commission on Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns  
April 2, 2009



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## The United Methodist Church Committee on Faith and Order Membership List

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Nomination	Class			
AUMTS	2008-2012	Dr.	Cheryl	Anderson
GBHEM	2008-2012	Dr.	David	Bard
GBHEM	2008-2012	Mr.	Lonnie	Brooks
GCCUIC	2008-2012	Rev	Kenneth	Carter
GBHEM	2008-2016	Rev	Orlando	Chaffee
COB	2008-2012	Bishop	Sudarshana	Devadhar
GBHEM	2008-2016	Rev	Tata	Gnagne-Marcel
GCCUIC	2008-2016	Rev.	Aida	Irizarry-Fernandez
AUMTS	2008-2016	Dr.	Randy	Maddox
GBHEM	2008-2016	Dr.	Beauty	Maenzanise
GBHEM	2008-2012	Dr.	Sergei	Nikolaev
AUMTS	2008-2012	Dr.	Fulgence	Nyengele
COB	2008-2012	Bishop	William	Oden
GCCUIC	2008-2016	Ms.	Lyn	Powell
COB	2008-2016	Bishop	Sharon	Rader
AUMTS	2008-2016	Rev	Russ	Richey
AUMTS	2008-2016	Dr.	Dana	Robert
GCCUIC	2008-2012	Rev	Charles	Schuster
COB	2008-2016	Bishop	MaryAnn	Swenson
GCCUIC	2008-2016	Rev	Dorothy	Watson-Tatem
COB	2008-2012	Bishop	William	Willimon
AUMTS	2008-2012	Dr.	Edward	Wimberly
COB	2008-2016	Bishop	David	Yemba
GCCUIC	2008-2012	Ms.	Rena	Yocom
GBHEM	Ex-Officio Staff	Dr.	Hendrik	Pieterse
GBHEM	Ex-Officio Consultant	Dr.	Jerome	King Del Pino
GCCUIC	Staff		Kathryn	Williams
GCCUIC	Ex-Officio Staff	Rev.	Betty	Gamble
GCCUIC	Ex-Officio Consultant	Dr.	Stephen	Sidorak

April 2, 2009