

1 **RES 26-06 | ENCOURAGING THE USE OF UNIONIZED VENUES**

2 **SUBJECT:** Encouraging the Use of Unionized Venues or Otherwise Ensuring the Wellbeing of  
3 Workers in Making Venue Decisions for Future Sessions of the California-Pacific Annual  
4 Conference  
5

6 **Submitted by:** Israel Alvaran, Richard Bentley, Judy Chung, Janet Cromwell, Victor Cyrus-Franklin,  
7 David Farley, Angela Galanis-Smith, Jennifer Gutierrez, Mateo Mamea, Allison Mark, Sharon  
8 McCart, Sharon Rhodes-Wickett, Sandie Richards, Bridie Roberts, Renee Ruiz, Jeanne Roe Smith,  
9 Jason Takagi, Phillip Valdes, Gary Williams, Katharine H. H. Wingate, Frank Wulf  
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11 **ESTIMATED FINANCIAL IMPACT:** The use of unionized venues for future Annual  
12 Conference sessions will have an unknown impact on the cost of those sessions  
13

14 **SOURCE OF STAFF TIME:** The Annual Conference Sessions Committee and Conference  
15 Personnel assigned to staff that committee  
16

17 **Whereas** the Social Principles of The United Methodist Church affirm: “We support workers’  
18 freedom of association, including their rights to organize unions, to engage in collective bargaining,  
19 and to protest both unsafe working conditions and unjust employment policies and practices. We  
20 also support workers’ right to strike;”<sup>1</sup> and  
21

22 **Whereas** Resolution 2211. Rights of Workers states:

23 Affirming its historic position and in response to new challenges facing workers, The United  
24 Methodist Church:

- 25 1. calls upon United Methodist institutions and organizations to exemplify the teachings found  
26 in the Social Principles and to support the right of their employees to organize for collective  
27 bargaining;
- 28 2. calls upon United Methodist agencies and congregations to use their purchasing and  
29 contracting dollars to support employers who pay living wages and support workers’ right to  
30 organize;<sup>2</sup> and  
31

32 **Whereas** the minutes of the 2025 session of the Annual Conference indicate that Rev. Frank Wulf,  
33 clergy person serving Echo Park UMC and La Plaza UMC addressed Plenary Session 6 on June 14,  
34 2025 as follows:  
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36 “I appreciate the work that ensures we go to a hotel that treats their employees well and pays a living  
37 wage. I want to call our attention to the people in our Conference who work with employees and  
38 organize with them. I want to call upon the body not just to talk to the management of hotels, but to  
39 also actively engage with folks in our Conference who work with Unions and who work on the  
40 streets, especially in hospitality unions as we make decisions moving forward. If you need to know  
41 who, talk to me and I will connect you;”<sup>3</sup>  
42

43 **BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the 42nd Annual Session of the California-Pacific Annual Conference  
44 strongly encourage the Annual Conference Sessions Committee, together with the Office of the  
45 Bishop, the Conference Council on Finance and Administration, and the Justice and Compassion  
46 Essential Ministry Team, include direct consultations with hospitality worker unions operating in  
47 regions where the Conference will be meeting to ensure that worker needs and worker concerns are  
48 given due consideration before any decision is made about the Conference venue.  
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1 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** the 42nd Annual Session of the California-Pacific  
2 Annual Conference expresses its preference for the use of unionized venues if at all possible. If, for  
3 some legitimate reason, a unionized venue is not possible, those involved in making venue decisions  
4 are strongly encouraged to make every effort to ensure and document that workers are paid a living  
5 wage, provided adequate workplace protections, and treated with fairness and respect.  
6 Conversations with workers should be included in this documentation effort.  
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8 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** the 42nd Annual Session of the California-Pacific  
9 Annual Conference urges the Annual Conference Sessions Committee, together with the Office of  
10 the Bishop, the Conference Council on Finance and Administration, and the Justice and  
11 Compassion Essential Ministry Team, to make a written report to the 43rd Annual Session of the  
12 California-Pacific Annual Conference about its efforts to explore the use of unionized venues or  
13 otherwise to ensure the wellbeing of workers in the venue that is finally chosen.  
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15 <sup>1</sup> *The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church 2020/2024*, ¶ 161. II. The Economic  
16 Community, Economic Justice, C. The Dignity of Work.

17 <sup>2</sup> *The Book of Resolutions of The United Methodist Church 2020/2024*, Resolution 2211. Rights of Workers,  
18 V. Supporting Workers' Right to Organize and Bargain Collectively.

19 <sup>3</sup> *The Journal of the California-Pacific Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church*, Section D. Daily  
20 Proceedings. *UM Daily*, Saturday, June 14, 2025, p. D-72.