

## Chapter 3

### GENERAL OFFICIALS OF THE CHURCH

**1800. Identification.** The general officials of the Church are those general officers which are designated as follows:

(1) Elected by the General Conference:

(a) The General Superintendents (1590:16).

(b) The General Secretary, the General Director of Spiritual Formation, the General Director of Evangelism and Church Growth, the General Director of Education and the Ministry, and the General Director of World Missions (1580:1; 1590:17).

(2) Elected by the General Board—the General Treasurer (1655:27), the General Publisher (1655:30), the General Director of Communications (1655:32), and the General Director of Stewardship Ministries (1655:28).

**1810. Qualifications.** A general official must be a covenant member of The Wesleyan Church at the time of election; and if at any time a general official ceases to be a covenant member, the office shall be declared vacant as provided for in 1850.

**1820. Term of Office.** The General Superintendents, the General Secretary and the General Directors listed above, (1800:1a, b) shall be elected by the General Conference (1580:1; 1590:16-17) for a term of four years, and shall serve from the close of that session until the close of the next regular session of the General Conference or until their successors are elected and qualified. A special session of the General Conference may, however, declare that the term is ended and order a new election. The General Treasurer, the General Publisher, the General Director of Communications and the General Director of Stewardship Ministries shall be elected by the General Board for a term determined by the General Board. The salary of a retiring general official shall continue one month beyond the date of termination of service.

**1830. Amenability.** The general officials are amenable to the General Board for their official conduct, and their moral character (323:1; 360:2). They are subject to direction from the General Conference, the General Board and its Executive Board. They may be removed from office for cause or when the best interests of the Church or the disabling physical or mental health of the official so requires. The removal from office of those general officials elected by the General Conference (1800:1a, b) shall require a two-

thirds majority vote of all members of the General Board (1655:39a; 5279). The removal from office of those general officials that are elected by the General Board (1800:2) shall require a majority vote of all members of the General Board (1655:39b; 5279).

**1840. Reports.** The general officials shall report to each session of the General Conference concerning their official duties, annually to the General Board concerning their official duties and personal ministry, and at other times as required by the General Conference, the General Board or the Executive Board.

**1845. World Headquarters Structure.** The number and nature of general offices and departments and the assignments of the general officials of The Wesleyan Church may be adjusted in times of exigency by a two-thirds majority vote of the members of the General Board present and voting, or a majority of all members of the General Board, whichever is greater.

**1850. Vacancies.** The office of a general official may become vacant by death, by cessation of membership in The Wesleyan Church, by resignation from office or by removal (1830). Vacancies in the office of those general officials elected by General Conference, except as provided for in 1845, shall be filled by a two-thirds vote of the members of the General Board present and voting, or by a majority vote of all the members of the General Board, whichever is greater (1655:10). Vacancies occurring in the office of those general officials elected by the General Board (1800:2) shall be filled by a majority vote of the General Board (1655:39b; 5282).

**1860. Church and District Membership.** An ordained minister who serves as a general official may hold ministerial membership in any district, and church membership in any local church. The responsibilities to the General Church shall take precedence over responsibilities to the district and local church (323:1; 360:2).

**1870. Residence.** The general officials shall reside in or near the place where the general headquarters of The Wesleyan Church is located.

**1880. Official Listing.** The official listing of the offices, departments, agencies, auxiliaries, subsidiary corporations, benevolent and educational institutions of the General Church is:

*Offices*

Office of the General Superintendents  
 Office of the General Secretary  
 Office of the General Treasurer  
 Office of Stewardship Ministries

*Departments*

General Department of Communications  
General Department of Education and the Ministry  
General Department of Evangelism and Church Growth  
General Department of Spiritual Formation  
General Department of World Missions

*Agency*

Wesleyan Publishing House

*Auxiliaries*

Wesleyan Medical Fellowship  
Wesleyan Men  
Wesleyan Women  
    Wesleyan Kids for Missions  
Wesleyan Youth  
Young Adults International

*Subsidiary Corporations*

Wesleyan Indian Ministries, Inc.  
Wesleyan Investment Foundation, Inc.  
Wesleyan Pension Fund, Inc.

*Benevolent Institution  
(Subsidiary Corporation)*

Hephzibah Children's Home, Macon, Georgia

*Educational Institutions  
(Subsidiary Corporations)*

Bethany Bible College, Sussex, New Brunswick  
Houghton College, Houghton, New York  
Indiana Wesleyan University, Marion, Indiana  
Oklahoma Wesleyan University, Bartlesville, Oklahoma  
Southern Wesleyan University, Central, South Carolina