

**Guide to the Administrative Records of the  
Commission on the Structure of Methodism  
Overseas  
1962-1972**





# Administrative Records of the Commission on the Structure of Methodism Overseas

1962-1972

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The purpose of this finding aid is to help you understand the nature of this collection and to assist you in the retrieval of material from this collection. The following pages contain an administrative history of the agency which gives summary information about the agency's history and development; followed by a general description of the collection in the scope and content note. If more detailed information is warranted then series descriptions also appear. The container listing appears last and is the listing of material in each box, or container, of this collection. To request material you need to turn to the container listing section. It is essentially a listing of file folders, or artifact items, in the collection. Each folder, or item, has a call number associated with it. Each folder also lists the inclusive dates of the material in the folder. On the material request form list both the call number and the folder, or item, title. Use a different line for each folder, or item, requested. When your request sheet is complete, or full, bring it to the archivist and the material will be retrieved.

## History Note

The Commission on the Structure of Methodism Overseas, also known as COSMOS, was authorized by the General Conference of 1948 as a liaison group between the General Conference of The Methodist Church and the churches overseas that had come into existence as the result of American missionary outreach. All memorials for changes in relationships of the General Conference to the churches overseas were considered and presented by this commission.

In response to the changing world situation, the General Conference of 1964 authorized a study on how best to revise the structure and relationships between the General Conference and its overseas relationships. The outcome of the study helped to establish the central conference structure and further defined the relationship between United Methodism and many of its former mission areas which had now become autonomous independent churches.

## Scope Note

Consists primarily of minutes; committee files, and correspondence relating to the work of this commission during the 1964-1968 study on the structure of the denomination overseas.

## Arrangement

Material has been arranged in the following manner.

*SERIES: ADMINISTRATIVE, FINANCIAL AND CORRESPONDENCE.*

*SERIES: AUTONOMOUS AND INDEPENDENT CHURCHES INFORMATION.*

*SERIES: MEETINGS.*

*SERIES: MINUTES.*

*SERIES: REPORTS AND STUDY PAPERS.*

## Access Restrictions

Denominational agency journals, reports and committee minutes are open to the public unless they have been closed in accordance with requirements specified in the Discipline. Denominational agency staff office records are closed for twenty-five (25) years after creation. Personnel records are closed for at least 75 years. Appeals can be made to the General Commission on Archives and History, P. O. Box 127, Madison, NJ 07940.



## Restrictions on Use

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## Subject Terms

### *Subject Names - Corporate*

Methodist Church (U.S.)

### *Subject Topics*

Church management  
Church polity  
Ecumenical movement.  
Missions

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1335-1-4:11	Evaluation of and Comment on the Proposal for an International Methodist Church/J. Robert Nelson, November 13,	1965
1335-1-4:12	Excerpts from Discipline of The Methodist Church, Re: Central Conferences	1964
1335-1-4:13	Excerpts from Team Reports of Visits to the Central Conferences, November 18,	1964
1335-1-4:14	Financial Assistance for Central Conference Bishops Involved in Church Union (Particularly in India)/John Robert Martin, August 31,	1967
1335-1-4:15	General Conference: Memorial Concerning Commission on Ecumenical Affairs	1963
1335-1-4:16	COSMOS Report to General Conference	1968
1335-1-4:17	God's Call to Repentance and Renewal	Undated
1335-1-4:18	Green Lake, WI Conferences: Speeches	1960-1966
1335-1-4:19	Green Lake, WI: Handbook for a Consultation on Methodist Church Overseas Structure, October 28-November 4,	1966
1335-1-4:20	Green Lake, WI: Study Guide for a Consultation on Methodist Church Overseas Structure, October 28-November 4,	1966
1335-1-4:21	Interpretation and Implications of the Green Lake Consultation on Methodist Church Overseas Structure, December 14,	1966
1335-1-4:22	Green Lake, WI: Historical Statement/Bishop W. Angie Smith, October 29,	1966
1335-1-4:23	Green Lake, WI: Statements of the Various Delegations, November 4,	1966
1335-1-4:24	Green Lake, WI: Bible Study - Adventurous Journey/Dr. Charles W. Ranson, October 31-November 9,	1966
1335-1-4:25	Green Lake, WI: Findings of the Consultation on Methodist Church Overseas Structure, November 5,	1966
1335-1-4:26	Impressions of the Consultation on the Structure of Methodism Overseas, Council of Bishops Meeting/Bishop Ralph T. Alton, March 16,	1967
1335-1-4:27	Report of the Study Team to India Central Conference/Mrs. L.W. Osgood	1965
1335-1-4:28	India-Nepal Area: Recommendations to the Executive Committee/Henry A. Lacy, April 28,	1965
1335-1-4:29	The Failure of Communism in India: A Retrospect/Robert I. Crane, October 15,	1965
1335-1-4:30	Findings of COSMOS Seminar, Jabalpur, India, June 28- 29,	1966
1335-1-4:31	Report from India/Bishop Gabriel Sundaram, November 13,	1965
1335-1-4:32	Publication: Indian Witness	1964-1967
1335-1-4:33	Some Issues Involved in the World Council of Churches Pamphlet "Joint Action for Mission"/Bishop Lesslie Newbigin, February,	1962
1335-1-4:34	The Viewpoint of the Latin American Churches, Council of Bishops Meeting/Bishop Sante Uberto Barbieri, February 23,	1967
1335-1-4:35	Proposal for a Methodist Organization of Latin America/Miguel A. Brun, July 4,	1966
1335-1-4:36	Report of the Committee on the Structure of Methodism in the Area of the Latin American Central Conference, July 10,	1964
1335-1-4:37	Letter to Mrs. Porter Brown, General Secretary, Methodist Board of Missions from Juan Nabong, President, Philippine Christian Colleges, Re: Autonomy, March 4,	1965
1335-1-4:38	Letter to COSMOS from Bishop Sante Uberto Barbieri, Re: A World Church with Autonomous Units, November 5,	1965
1335-1-4:39	Letter to Bishop H.R. Heininger from Juan Nabong, Re: Best Structure for Overseas Methodist Churches, February 12,	1965
1335-1-4:40	Letter from Bishop Richard C. Raines to Dr. Ivy Chow in response to Dr. Chow's letter to Charles Parlin, Re: A World Structure of Methodism, February 9,	1965
1335-1-4:41	Letter from Dr. D.T. Niles, Re: A World Methodist Conference of Churches/Autonomy	Undated



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1335-1-4:42	London Consultation, August 1966 Report, October 29	1966
1335-1-4:43	Long Range Objectives for the Structure of Methodism	1962
1335-1-4:44	Interdivision Reaction to the Study Paper: Long Range Objectives for the Structure of Methodism, December,	1962
1335-1-4:45	Report on Visit to Malaya/Robert L. Turnipseed, September 16,	1965
1335-1-4:46	Malaysia-Singapore Methodist Church: Meeting of the Structure Committees of the Four Annual Conferences, April 27- 30,	1967
1335-1-4:47	Report of Malaysia Committee on Structure/Rev. Yap Kim Hao, November 13,	1965
1335-1-4:48	Memo to the Council of Bishops from COSMOS, Re: Restructuring the Methodist Church	n.d
1335-1-4:49	Memorandum on the Operation of Methodism Overseas/Bishop Roy L. Short	Undated
1335-1-4:50	Methodist Heritage and Its Contribution to the Church Universal/Bishop R.L. Short	Undated
1335-1-4:51	Methodism in Asia/Bishop Yap Kim Hao	Undated
1335-1-4:52	The Methodist Church (USA) - A Change in Structure Required	c.1965
1335-1-4:53	Mission, Unity, World Methodism and a Board of Missions/Tracey K. Jones, Jr., October 12,	1965
1335-1-5:1	Missionary Motivation Papers	Undated
1335-1-5:2	The Movement Toward United Churches/Harold R. Heininger	Undated
1335-1-5:3	The Need for Structural Flexibility/Prince A. Taylor, Jr., November,	1964
1335-1-5:4	Needs and Problems in the Central Conferences/Bishop Ralph Dodge, April,	1965
1335-1-5:5	New Strains Upon the Connectionalism of Methodism/Bishop Roy H. Short	1965
1335-1-5:6	New Structures for Methodism Overseas/Lawrence Turnipseed, February 10,	1966
1335-1-5:7	New Testament Teaching on the Nature of the Church/L. Harold DeWolf	Undated
1335-1-5:8	Report on Studies and Statement made by the Northern Europe Central Conference related to the COSMOS Proposals/Bishop Odd Hagen, February 21,	1967
1335-1-5:9	The Options We Share/Bishop Lloyd Wicke, February 21,	1967
1335-1-5:10	Organization and Relationships	Undated
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1335-1-5:12	A Report to COSMOS on The Methodist Church in Pakistan, Provisional Central Conference/Robert F. Oxnam, March 10,	1965
1335-1-5:13	Report from Mr. Charles Parlin, Re: Methodist and Evangelical United Brethren Church Union, November 15,	1965
1335-1-5:14	Reactions to the Proposal for an International Methodist Church Expressed in Letters written at the request of Bishop Raines/Rev. Jon I. Regier, September 30,	1965
1335-1-5:15	Philippines Central Conference, Meeting with the Study Committees Chairmen and Secretaries, October 28-November 1,	1964
1335-1-5:16	Philippine Issues in the Proposed EUB/Methodist Merger	Undated
1335-1-5:17	The Methodist Church and the United Church of Christ in the Philippines: A Joint Communique/Bishop Jose L. Valencia, October 27,	1967
1335-1-5:18	Report of the Philippine Consultation on Partnership in Mission, February 20-22,	1967
1335-1-5:19	Report of Visit to Philippines (Draft), August 14,	1965
1335-1-5:20	COSMOS Position Paper, Re: Autonomy, October 15,	1964
1335-1-5:21	Statement of Reaction to the COSMOS Proposal/Robert W. Huston, July,	1965
1335-1-5:22	Notes on the COSMOS Proposals for an International Methodist Church (Draft)/D.W. Thompson, September 9,	1965
1335-1-5:23	A Preliminary Proposal for Legislative Revision of the Discipline in Light of the COSMOS Study Paper	Undated
1335-1-5:24	A World Structure for a World Church or A World Structure for a World Mission?/Bishop Richard C. Raines	Undated
1335-1-5:25	Quadrennial Projections, World Division, Board of Missions, A New Church for a New World, December 12,	1967
1335-1-5:26	The Quest for Structures of Missionary Congregations	Undated
1335-1-5:27	Reasons Why Change in Methodist Overseas Structure is Necessary/Robert L. Turnipseed, May 3,	1965
1335-1-5:28	Recent Developments and Trends in the Structure of Methodism Overseas/J. Robert Martin, September,	1967

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1335-1-5:31	Comments on the Memorandum "A Legislated Proposal for a Regional Conference:/Charles C. Parlin, September 18,	1967
1335-1-5:32	The Relationship of the Evangelical United Brethren Church with Churches Overseas/John F. Schaefer, November,	1965
1335-1-5:33	Renewal Through Obedience, Integrity and Interdependence/Bishop Richard C. Raines, October 29,	1966
1335-1-5:34	Re-Thinking the Structure of The Methodist Church, for Consideration by the Council of Bishops, January 10,	1964
1335-1-5:35	A Review of the International Organization of Methodism of the American Tradition, World Methodist Council Executive Committee/J. Robert Martin, September,	1968
1335-1-5:36	Restructuring The Methodist Church, Memo to the Council of Bishops from COSMOS/J. Robert Martin, February 27,	1967
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1335-1-5:38	Self-Support: Next Steps in Mission Board - Younger Church Relations/Dr. D.T. Niles, March 18,	1968
1335-1-5:39	Some Preliminary Observations on the Subject: Wider Horizons in Relationship with Independent Churches	1968
1335-1-5:40	A Statistical Survey: Overseas Missionary Program of The Methodist Church/Theodore Runyan, February 15,	1962
1335-1-5:41	Structure of The Methodist Church in Southern Asia/P.C.B. Balaram, March 7,	1967
1335-1-5:42	Suggestions for an Inter-Area Consultation in Hong Kong, 1963	Undated
1335-1-5:43	Report on Visit to Sumatra Annual Conference/Hugh H. Lormor, August,	1964
1335-1-5:44	Survey of Recent Developments/R.L. Turnipseed, November 13,	1965
1335-1-5:45	Report by Bishop Prince Taylor, Re: Meeting of the Central Conference in Liberia, December 15,	1965
1335-1-5:46	A Theological Motivation for Development/Rev. Albert van den Heuvel to the World Division Staff Meeting, March 5,	1968
1335-1-5:47	Tentative and Exploratory Statement of the Mind of COSMOS as Expressed in the Chicago Meeting, March 14-15,	1962
1335-1-5:48	Towards a Theology of Mission: Guidelines for the Leadership of the Church	Undated
1335-1-5:49	Papers on the Theology of Mission	1960-1964
1335-1-5:50	Those Who Have Turned the World Upside Down/Bishop Sante Uberto Barbieri, April 5,	1964
1335-1-6:1	The United Church of Christ in Japan (Nihon Kirishto Kyodan) After Twenty Years/Charles H. Germany, February,	1962
1335-1-6:2	Legislative Power of a United Conference	n.d
1335-1-6:3	If the United States Became a Central Conference, How Would This Help the Churches in Asia?/Rev. Yap Kim Hao, November 18,	1964
1335-1-6:4	Urbanization on a World Scale and Its Implications for Evangelism/L.M. McCoy, December 12,	1967
1335-1-6:5	After the Third Session of the Second Vatican Council/Lukas Vischer, January 19,	1965
1335-1-6:6	What are the Criteria or Guidelines for Change in Structure?/Steering Committee, October 31,	1966
1335-1-6:7	Where Today Does Catholicity Begin: in the "National Group" or "World Group"?/Tracey K. Jones, Jr., June,	1964
1335-1-6:8	Whether or Whither Methodism?/J. Robert Martin	Undated
1335-1-6:9	Whither World Methodism?/Bishop James K. Mathews, June,	1965
1335-1-6:10	Why Change?	Undated
1335-1-6:11	A Workbook for Those Sharing in the Studies of COSMOS, June,	1964
1335-1-6:12	Report of Working Groups at Pre-General Conference Meeting at Gatlinburg, TN, April 1-10,	1964
1335-1-6:13	World Church/Sante Uberto Barbieri, October 30,	1966
1335-1-6:14	A Report of the World Confessional Consultation, Geneva/Tracey K. Jones, Jr.,	1966





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1335-1-6:17	Outline of World Methodism/Charles Parlin, January 30,	1967
1335-1-6:18	World Methodism: Structure for Mission/Bishop James K. Mathews, October 29,	1966
1335-1-6:19	Autonomy: Miscellaneous Reports, Articles, Etc.	1963-1966
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