

ANNUAL CONFERENCE  
PETITION TO THE 2006 ROCKY MOUNTAIN CONFERENCE

**TITLE: NEW CHURCH WIDER MISSION FORMULA**

**ACTION TO BE VOTED ON:**

1 The clergy and laity members of the Rocky Mountain Conference of the United Methodist  
2 Church agree that the Wider Mission Giving for newly charter churches should be phased in as  
3 follows:  
4

5 Newly chartered churches will be granted a five-year period to step up to full apportionments as  
6 follows:

- 7 Year 1 - 20% of full apportionment
- 8 Year 2 - 40% of full apportionment
- 9 Year 3 - 60% of full apportionment
- 10 Year 4 - 80% of full apportionment
- 11 Year 5 - Full apportionment
- 12

13 If the newly chartered church meets the above described level of support, they will be considered  
14 to have met their wider mission commitment for that year. Provided however, that prior to the  
15 year a Fellowship Group applies to become a chartered church, they are encouraged to commit up  
16 to 10% of their staff and program budget to Wider Mission Giving.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** January 1, 2007

**TERMINATION DATE:** Permanent

**ORIGINATOR OF THE PETITION**

Council on New Ministries

**PERSON TO PRESENT PETITION TO CONFERENCE:**

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**FINANCIAL IMPACT:**

There will be a small positive financial impact to the total revenue received by the Conference and it will be more than most Fellowship Groups has been contributing in the past years.

**RATIONALE: Not debatable**

17 The 2004 Rocky Mountain Annual Conference adopted Petition 2004 AC-13 which endorsed a  
18 goal of creating 12 new urban churches, 12 new rural churches and 12 new ethnic ministries by  
19 2012. The theme of the 2006 Rocky Mountain Annual Conference is “Churches Building  
20 Churches.” Therefore, the Rocky Mountain Conference is committed to starting new ministries  
21 that will ultimately become active and vibrant congregations. However, during their start-up  
22 years, these congregations are using most of their financial resources to develop programs,  
23 establish active congregations and provide support staff. Therefore, the phased Wider Mission  
24 Giving formula will allow the new church to focus on developing a strong membership while  
25 providing increasing support of the general church and the Methodist connectional system.