

**DISSOLUTION OF THE PASTORAL COMMISSION OF THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH
(DISCIPLES OF CHRIST) IN THE UNITED STATES AND CANADA**

(Operational, Policy, and Organizational)

WHEREAS In 1992, when the Central Pastoral Office for Hispanic Ministries was established, the Pastoral Commission was formed as the entity that serves as the liaison between the Obra Hispana and the General Board of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the United States and Canada to accompany, advise and affirm programming and the operational budget of the Central Pastoral Office for Hispanic Ministries; and

WHEREAS at the joint meeting of the Hispanic Board of Directors and the Pastoral Commission on December 9-11, 2021, it was unanimously approved to carry out the appropriate processes for the dissolution of the Pastoral Commission, thus understanding that as Hispanic people we have the capacity and the right to carry out and manage the ministries and affairs of the Central Pastoral Office for Hispanic Ministries and the National Hispanic and Bilingual Fellowship, and the dissolution of the Pastoral Commission is an act of justice and reconciliation, as we are an Anti-racist and Pro-reconciling Church; and

WHEREAS the Confraternidad Nacional Hispana y Bilingüe (National Hispanic and Bilingual Fellowship) has a covenant relationship with the various expressions of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the United States and Canada; and

WHEREAS we are an integral part of the body and the Design of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the United States and Canada; and

WHEREAS we understand that the Junta Directiva Hispana (Hispanic Board of Directors) can be a direct liaison to the General Board of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the United States and Canada without the need for additional members named by the Administrative Committee and the College of Regional Ministers; and

WHEREAS we have functioned as a Pastoral Commission, according to Article V of the National Hispanic and Bilingual Fellowship's By-laws, and we understand our purpose, processes, and responsibilities; now,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Pastoral Commission for Hispanic Ministries is dissolved and the Hispanic Board of Directors:

- serves as the liaison between the Obra Hispana and the General Board of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ);
- defines the mission and establishes the policies of the Central Pastoral Office for Hispanic Ministries of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the United States and Canada;

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- affirms the programs and operational budget of the Central Pastoral Office for Hispanic Ministries;
 - nominates the National Pastor for the Central Pastoral Office for Hispanic Ministries;
 - reserves the right to invite members from the various expressions of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), including but not limited to the College of Regional Ministers, to be part of the Hispanic Board of Directors and to work together for the good of the Obra Hispana.

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56 **FINALLY, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Assembly of the National Hispanic and Bilingual

57 Fellowship, having ratified and affirmed this action on July 22, 2022 at its Biennial

58 Assembly in Fort Worth, Texas, calls on the General Assembly to affirm the dissolution

59 of the Pastoral Commission and the establishment of the Hispanic Board of Directors as

60 the formal decision-making body and liaison between the Obra Hispana and the

61 General Board.

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64 National Hispanic and Bilingual Fellowship (the Obra Hispana)

**The General Board recommends that the General Assembly ADOPT GA-3242.
(Discussion Time: 12 minutes)**