

General Conference Program
of the
DUNKARD BRETHREN CHURCH

to be held at
Manchester College
North Manchester, Indiana
June 6 - 10, 2026

- Daily Time Schedule -

7:30 AM	Morning Worship	2:00 PM	Afternoon Service
8:00 AM	Breakfast	5:00 PM	Evening Meal
9:45 AM	Morning Service	7:00 PM	Evening Service
12:00 Noon	Lunch	11:00 PM	Quiet Time

- Preaching Program -

Time	Speaker	Subject	Text
Sat. PM	Jason St. John		
Sat. PM.	Mike Wray	How shall we sing the Lord's Song?	Psalm 137
Sat. eve.	Brant Jamison	The \$10 Million Question	Mark 11:12-14
Sun. AM	Bible Study, Children: Jesus The Provider		Matthew 14:13-21
Sun. AM	Chad Meyers	Don't Let Go of the Rope	Galatians 6:9
Sun. AM	Kidron Crist	The Lord's Prayer	Matthew 6:9-13
Sun. PM	Mission Moments		
Sun. eve.	Brad Wertz	Youth Message: All Eyes on Christ at All Times	Heb 12:1-2
Mon 8:30	Mary Kate Peters	Sisters' Sharing Time in Wine Recital Hall	
Mon. AM	Bible Study, Adult:	God's Presence	Acts 7:1-16
	Bible Study, Children:	Jesus The Healer	John 9:1-11
Mon. AM	Marcus Wray	The Power of Testimony	Psalm 66:16
Mon. PM	Kyle Chupp	Revive, Rekindle, Restore	II Timothy 1:6
Mon. PM	Clint Alspaugh		
Mon. eve.	Lloyd Lorenz	Casting a Shadow	Philippians 4:9, II Timothy 2:2
Tues. AM	Bible Study, Adult:	Children of God	1 John 5:1-21
	Bible Study, Children:	Jesus the Giver of Life	Mark 5:21-24, 35-43
Tues. AM	Dennis Klinedinst		
Tues. PM	Youth Activities Committee Program		
Tues. PM	Youth Activity		
Tues. eve.	David Rice		

Business Session: Wednesday morning beginning at 9:00 a.m.

1. Call to Order by Retiring Moderator
2. Opening Devotions
3. Announcement of New Organization (Officers of General Conference)
4. Appointment of Tellers and Time Keeper
5. Reading of Acts 15 and Rules of Order
6. Report of Credentials Committee
7. Approval of 2025 General Conference Minutes
8. General Conference Offering
9. Report of Standing Committee acting as Nominating Committee

10. Report of the Trustee Board

The Trustee Board sends heartfelt thanks to each of you who have supported the work in the past year. There was a sizable amount of money drawn from the board in 2025.

Some of the major expenses are as follows:

General Conference held in Pella Iowa - \$121,503.17

Transfer of funds to General Mission Board - \$94,100

The Audio-Visual Committee purchased equipment for use at Leadership and General Conferences - \$18,291.13

Bookkeeping and Legal Services- \$14,760

Currently there is \$230,000 borrowed from the Trustee Board for building projects by several congregations. This money is loaned interest free.

The Financial Stewardship Board produced a letter explaining the declining balance of brotherhood funds. We ask that both congregations and individuals prayerfully consider their part in addressing these needs.

Brother Chad Meyers, Secretary

11. Report of the General Mission Board

The General Mission Board monitors and provides oversight for various mission outreach efforts under the auspices of the Dunkard Brethren

Church. We encourage everyone to support these efforts in prayer, with your finances or by your participation to be a witness for Jesus Christ and to call others into His Kingdom. The GMB continues to provide direction and encouragement through the Torreon Mission Board to the Navajo people in New Mexico. Also, in Kenya, the African Mission Board oversees the support and encouragement of the local Kenyan Mission Board and the congregations. A transitional AMB has been operating over the last year. Two members of the GMB have been serving with that board to assist the new members. Communications have continued with the Tama and Carmen McGlenn family of the Netherlands as they continue their outreach to the people in their community and surrounding region. Continue to pray for the Holy Spirit's direction as people are reaching out to others in diverse places. Please contact any of the Mission Boards with your support and your inquiry to volunteer.

Brother David Rice, Secretary

12. Report of the Board of Publication

The Publication Board is once again grateful for your continued support, both prayerful and financial, as we as a Brotherhood endeavor to continue the important mission of sending the Gospel message out in printed form, as well as keeping the Brotherhood up to date on current events and happenings. We appreciate and are thankful for those that have invested their time and gift in writing articles for publication.

The Board has been involved in updating the DBC website regarding what we believe, as well as the *Instructions for Applicants* manual; however, it needs to be updated again.

Also, a well-deserved thanks and appreciation to Brother Ken for his diligent and faithful effort in editing and putting together all to be printed for the Bible Monitor.

Brother Kevin Funk, Secretary

13. Report of the Bible Study Board

The work of the Bible Study Board continues in an effort to encourage and

facilitate the study of God's Word in our congregations. The primary duties of the board consist of the planning and production of the yearly Sunday School lesson plans as well as oversight of the Bible studies and classes at General Conference. The board also attempts to assist the study of the Sunday School lessons throughout the year by producing the Sunday School lesson questions and the Connections articles which are both published in the monthly issues of the Bible Monitor.

Through the years, the distribution of the yearly Sunday School lesson plans has been carried out in a variety of ways. With changes in technology, the process has been streamlined and simplified. For the past few years, the lesson plans have been made available on the brotherhood website. This is the best way to access the lesson plans; however, the plans can still be acquired by requesting them from a member of the Bible Study Board.

A number of years ago, there were several topical lesson plans that were produced for the youth/teen classes. These plans were compiled and produced with the intent that they could be reused on a revolving schedule in future years. While they have not been utilized much in recent years, those plans are still available and can be acquired in the same ways as the adult plans.

The Adult Sunday School lessons in 2026 cover the first half of the book of Acts. It was decided to divide the book of Acts out over two years in order to allow for a more in-depth study of the founding and function of the early church. Because of this, the lesson plan for 2027 will cover the second half of the book of Acts.

A change that has been made in recent years to the Sunday School lesson plan is the discontinuation of the study of special lessons on Sundays which correspond with certain holidays (Resurrection Sunday, Mother's Day, Father's Day, Thanksgiving, and Christmas). It was thought that those Sundays were already heavily focused on those holidays and that the Sunday School time might be better used focusing on the ongoing study of the regular portion of scripture without interruption. As always, the board is open to ideas or suggestions relating to this or any other ways that we could better serve the brotherhood.

As a board, we are aware that our efforts are greatly aided by the faithful work of Sunday School teachers and class teachers at General Conference who are willing to prepare and present lessons throughout the year. May God richly bless each one for their efforts to help the body grow in our knowledge and understanding of God's Word.

On behalf of the Bible Study Board,

Nathan Meyers, Secretary

14. Report of the General Relief Board

Dear Church family, on behalf of the Relief Board, thank you for generously giving throughout the year. Your efforts have been a blessing to those in need, and Lord willing will continue to in the time to come. We have had the privilege of helping several people in various needs this year, and we look forward to helping others as well. We ask for your prayers as we continue to serve the needs of our brotherhood, and for wisdom in disbursement of funds. With joy we look forward to another year of service in our Lord's kingdom.

Mark Cordrey, Jr., Secretary

15. Report of the Torreon Navajo Mission Board

The work at the Torreon Mission has been very blessed this year! God has continued to provide abundantly for this work in countless ways! The staff God has called to assist with this work have been an invaluable asset to its continuation. AJ and Janell Trujillo and their family faithfully fulfill the Superintendent role at the mission. Additionally, Mary Sue Moss, Ellie Weiler, Merci Flory, Cassie Davison, Erin Meyers, and Blake Royer all play critical roles in sustaining the school and the numerous outreach efforts.

The Torreon Christian School currently has 22 students enrolled. The school provides a quality education to the community children in a safe, stable place for their learning and development. Many of the students come from broken and tumultuous homes, and providing them a safe, loving space to learn is vital for their development and refinement. Cassie, Ellie,

Erin, Merci, and Mary Sue are the primary staff investing in the work in the school, and they are doing a terrific job! We also had the tremendous privilege this year of baptizing two of the school children who made the choice to commit their lives to God!

Mary Sue continues to spend time once per week visiting and investing in the lives of a number of the older ladies in the community. We continue to host pre-teen, teen, boys, or ladies/girls nights on each of the Friday evenings of the month to interact with the community and provide them with wholesome activities and spiritual guidance. Our church services are well-attended by the community members, with the average attendance being 75-100 on both Sundays and Wednesdays. The mission continues to help the community with funeral needs by providing space for funeral planning, constructing low-cost caskets, officiating services, and assisting with burials. Vacation Bible School was hosted by 3rd district this year, and it was a terrific success! The VBS group completed many projects around the mission and also invested in several work projects to improve the homes of community people.

Another major blessing this year was that we were able to replace one of the oldest buildings on the mission grounds, the “garage” house. The old building was at its end-of-life from many years of use, and it was time to replace it and expand the mission’s carrying capacity for staff and other volunteer help. The building project started ahead of schedule in November of 2025 and was completed in early May of 2026. One major demonstration of God’s provision was the fact that the project was entirely funded by direct donations and constructed using volunteer labor! There was a major outpouring from people who volunteered their time, expertise, funds, and equipment to making this building possible. Seeing God’s provision demonstrated in such a streamlined, efficient, and providential way has been quite humbling. God has, once again, gone exceedingly, abundantly, above all that we could have imagined, and we are so grateful for everyone who made this new building possible!

Lastly, this is the 70th year of the existence of this work. It has been blessed and sustained by the Almighty since the call was originally placed upon the

hearts of a small handful of willing people many years ago. We are filled with gratitude for the many people God has prompted to invest in this work with their time, prayers, and resources. Thank you all very much for your prayerful support of this work! This work continues because of you!

Jonathan Skiles, Secretary

16. Report of the African Mission Board

The African Mission Board was reorganized in 2025 with the addition of five new members (Wyan Bowman, Mark Cordrey Sr., Dallas Flory, Seth Skiles, and Loren Zook). The new members have greatly valued the counsel provided by previous board members and former missionaries as we transition into this role.

Micaiah and Bethany Johnson returned to the United States in May 2025. The Board deeply appreciates their dedicated service to the mission. The work of the Kenya mission has been carried forward under the native leadership of the Kenya Mission Board. The Annual General Meeting was held at Kapenguria from December 17th-20th. The Kenyan brethren conducted the meeting with the theme “A New Creature.” The DBC Leadership Conference was also held in April at the mission compound.

The Board believes there is an ongoing need for missionary presence, particularly to support existing churches and to expand outreach efforts. Given the significant workload, the Board feels that several couples—or one couple accompanied by several singles—would be best equipped to manage the responsibilities. Anyone interested in serving is encouraged to contact a member of the African Mission Board.

Concerns have been raised regarding financial accountability for the mission’s funds. Many businesses and merchants in Kenya do not provide receipts. This has made record keeping very challenging in Kenya. However, the Board is committed to providing the Brotherhood with increased transparency and clarity. As treasurer, Brother Wyan Bowman has been working to record and describe expenses and to prepare an itemized financial report. Anyone with specific concerns is welcome to contact Brother Wyan or any other Board member for additional

information throughout the year.

Thank you for your prayer and financial support over the past year. We ask for your ongoing prayer for our Kenyan brothers and sisters. Please pray for their spiritual growth and strength. Additionally, we request prayer for missionaries to serve and wisdom for the Board in supporting the work of the mission.

Seth Skiles, Secretary

17. Report of the Civilian Service Board

Plans are well under way for our fifth CASP Project to be hosted by the Torreon Navajo Mission this summer. Plans are being made for the young men to do service projects in and around the Torreon community. As of this writing, most of the volunteers for staff and the Alternative Service Workers (young men) are in place. This project is scheduled to begin Saturday evening, June 20, and run through July 17. Due to the nature of this project, joining the members of the Civilian Service Board were the members of the Relief Board and the Torreon Navajo Mission Board and staff. We deeply appreciate their significant contributions to the planning and implementation of this project.

There is a significant change coming regarding how young men register with the Selective Service System. After December of this year (2026), young men will no longer need to register with Selective Service. Instead, the Federal Government will automatically register all young men from existing records and documents including Social Security and other Federal agencies. The Selective Service System submitted a proposed rule to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs on March 30. The wording was included in the fiscal year 2026 National Defense Authorization Act. Automatic registration with Selective Service was signed into law when President Donald Trump signed this bill in December, 2025. Instead of individual men being responsible to register with Selective Service, the Selective Service will be responsible to register all young men from ages 18 through 25 with assistance from Federal data sources. As of this writing, this proposed rule is under review by the regulatory affairs office and

waiting finalization.

Despite most states and territories enacting and implementing legislation linking driver's licenses and registration with the SSS, registration for the draft has been dwindling in recent years. Women are still exempt from registration.

Thank you for your continuing prayers and support for the Civilian Service Board.

*Respectfully Submitted,
Brother Bob Lehigh, Executive Secretary*

18. Report of the Church Growth Board

The Church Growth Board is dedicated to supporting congregations seeking assistance in outreach and growth. The Board is prepared to help with meetings, provide resources, and offer logistical support. We understand that growing the brotherhood involves more than increasing numbers; it is about building meaningful relationships within our communities and reaching out to others. By collaborating with congregations, our goal is to establish thriving, Christ-centered communities that inspire faith, service, and unity.

At present, the Church Growth Board is concentrating on three primary areas:

1. Helping small and/or underserved congregations.
2. Supporting the development of church outreach points.
3. Encouraging fellow believers in the Netherlands and the surrounding areas.

We are working to support small congregations and outreach points. If you want to visit, serve, or move to a smaller congregation, contact them or a Church Growth Board member directly.

We encourage everyone who feels a calling toward outreach to become actively involved in the brotherhood's church growth efforts. As we pursue these endeavors, we look to Ephesians 3:20-21 as our God is able to do

exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think...

Bro. Brant Jamison, Secretary

19. Report of the Financial Stewardship Board

The Financial Stewardship Board had been given the responsibility of improving the management of the denominational funds. The goals set for this committee include these longer-term goals/mandates:

- 1) Monitor and audit the accounting process and update as necessary.
- 2) Create an investment plan for funds not included in the operating needs.
- 3) Vet and approve needs/proposals for gifting funds to appropriate causes, be that our churches, missions, or needs within the Christian community.

The board has reviewed the books of the accounting office and operational account for the Torreon Navajo Mission and have found that they are in order.

Donations for the Brotherhood Boards should be written to the Dunkard Brethren Church with specific board name on the Memo line and addressed to “Dunkard Brethren Church, PO Box 821, Troy, OH, 45373”.

Donations for the Torreon Christian School are to be written to Torreon Navajo Mission and sent to “Torreon Mission HC 79 Box 8, Cuba, NM 87013”

Online donations can be made on the church website for the Torreon Navajo Mission and the African Mission. The giving button is on each of the mission pages in the website.

The Peoples Bank - On Demand account had been used for Amazon sales. In December 2025 that account was closed and the Amazon sales now go directly to the brotherhood checking account.

Everence Financial Account 2025 Beginning Balance \$895,394.60. Ending Balance \$1,021,798.00 with a net rate of return of 14.11%.

In December of 2024, a Money Market Account was opened with \$300,000 to have cash more readily available for the daily needs of the brotherhood

without having to withdraw from the investment account. Net Transfers between the Checking Account and the MMA \$(201,700.00). Interest Income \$2,105.75. Average Balance \$175,473.80. Ending Balance \$100,405.75.

Total Brotherhood Assets \$ 1,389,873.76 down \$(114,214.65) from 2024.

The Financial Stewardship Board is still working on a policy for gifting of the gains from the investments which the board was tasked with. At this time there have been no donations made by the board from the gains of the investment account.

*Respectfully submitted,
Financial Stewardship Board
Alex Meyers, Chairman
Anthony Martin, Secretary
Jesse Alspaugh
Mark Nines
Seth Skiles*

OLD BUSINESS

20. Report of the Committee on Printing “Minutes in One Volume, 1976 to Present” (reference item #25 of the 2024 General Conference Minutes, #23 - 2022, #22 - 2021, #22 - 2019, #20 - 2018, #20 - 2017, #20 - 2016, #22 - 2015, #21 - 2014, #22 - 2013, #21 - 2012, #21 - 2011, #22 - 2010, #21 - 2009, #22 - 2008, #26 - 2007, #18 - 2006, #s 21 & 22 - 2005 and #18 - 2003.)

In the last few years, Bro. Marvin Lorenz has worked diligently to bring the Minutes in One Volume project to completion and has been making annual updates. He recently completed the update for this year, "General Conference Minutes of the Dunkard Brethren Church from 1927 to 2025", and provided a printed copy to the Publication Board as well as a digital copy to be uploaded to the brotherhood website.

As the work to print the General Conference Minutes in one volume has now been completed, the Committee on Printing "Minutes in One Volume" respectfully requests to be dismissed.

Committee:
Bro. Dennis St. John
Bro. Ken Brock

- 21. Report of the Headship Covering Committee** (reference item #23 of the 2025 General Conference Minutes, #26 - 2024, #20 - 2023, #24 - 2022, #23 - 2021, #23 - 2019, #21 - 2018, #21 - 2017, #21 - 2016, #23 - 2015, #23 - 2014, #27 - 2013, #23 - 2012, #23 - 2011, #s 25 & 33 - 2010, and #30 - 2009)

No report received for printing.

Committee:
First District - *Robert Lehigh, Marlin Marks*
Second District - *Dennis St. John*
Third District - *Mark Andrews, James Meyers*
Fourth District - *Mark Cordrey*

- 22. Report of the Church Polity and Church Manual Review Committee** (reference item #27 of the 2024 General Conference Minutes, #21 – 2023, #25 - 2022, #24 - 2021, #24 - 2019, #22 - 2018, #22 - 2017, #22 - 2016, #24 - 2015, #24 - 2014, #21 - 2013, #s 24, 28 & 29 - 2012)

The Committee has completed its assigned task of updating the language of the Polity and Manual, and respectfully requests to be dismissed.

Committee:
First District - *Marlin Marks, Dale Eberly*
Second District - *Dennis St. John, Ken Brock*
Third District - *James Meyers, Jonathan Skiles*
Fourth District - *Mark Cordrey*

23. Financial Reports – 2025

Treasurer's Report of the Trustee Board

Summary Report January 1, 2025 – December 31, 2025

Beginning Total Assets:	\$1,219,473.50
Note Receivable - Cornerstone	\$(40,000.00)
Note Receivable - Bethel School	\$(100,000.00)
Note Receivable - Garnett	\$(100,000.00)

Beginning Account Balance: \$979,473.50

Income

Congregation Offerings	\$18,244.20
General Conference Offerings	\$46,290.86
GCO - Sunday School Offerings	\$4,559.00
Individual Donations	\$12,955.00
Loan Payment - Cornerstone	\$10,000.00

Total \$92,049.06

Expenses

Bank Service Charges	\$44.00
Church Charter Fees	\$312.00
Donations by Board	\$133,100.00
General Conference Expenses	\$105,003.17
Insurance Expense (Reimb.)	\$1,622.00
Leadership Conference Expenses	\$2,000.00
PO Box Rental	\$192.00
Printing Expenses	\$2,840.32
Professional Fees	\$21,713.61
Attorney, Accountant, Website, Storage, Property	
Supplies	\$16,069.15
Travel Expenses	\$1,326.55

Total \$284,222.80

Ending Account Balance \$787,299.76

Note Receivable - Cornerstone	\$30,000.00
Note Receivable - Bethel School	\$100,000.00
Note Receivable - Garnett	\$100,000.00

Ending Total Assets: \$1,017,299.76

Dennis St. John, Treasurer

Treasurer's Report of the General Mission Board

Summary Report January 1, 2025 - December 31, 2025

Beginning Balance	\$19,429.12
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Income	
Congregation Offerings	\$50,186.82
General Conference Offerings	\$5,600.00
Individual Donations	\$650.00
Trustee Board Donations	\$103,100.00
Trust, Estates Offerings	\$4,986.00
Total	\$164,522.82
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Expenses	
Donations by Board	\$144,000.00
Retirement Care, Misc.	\$24,000.00
Travel Expenses	\$7,928.77
Total	\$175,928.77
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Ending Balance	\$8,023.17

Jason Carpenter, Treasurer

Treasurer's Report of the Relief Board

Summary Report January 1, 2025 - December 31 2025

Beginning Balance	\$67,065.08
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Income	
CASP Contributions	\$5,000.00
Congregation Offerings	\$9,417.00
Total	\$14,417.00
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Expenses	
Donations by Board	\$5,250.00

Financial Assistance	\$14,710.00
Travel Expenses	\$5,190.17
Total	\$25,150.17
Ending Balance	\$56,331.91

CASP Financial Summary (internal to Relief Board)

Beginning Balance \$21,042.07

Income

CASP Contributions \$5,000.00

Expenses

Travel – CASP \$5,190.17

Ending Balance \$20,851.90

Rodney Kimmel, Treasurer

Treasurer’s Report of the Publication Board

Summary Report January 1, 2025 - December 31, 2025

Beginning Balance \$ 8,123.72

Income

Congregation Offerings \$ 6,819.85

Individual Donations \$ 110.00

Sale of Hymnals \$ 2,089.26

Sale of History Books \$ 100.00

Subscriptions \$ 4,685.50

Transfer In, Online Sales Account \$158.60

Total \$ 13,963.21

Expenses

Editorial Services \$ 6,000.00

Printing - Bible Monitor \$ 12,077.55

Printing Expenses	\$ 190.00
Total	\$ 18,267.55
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Ending Balance	\$ 3,819.38
Beginning Online Sales Account	\$ 144.40
Amazon Sales Net Profit From Print on Demand Bible Stories	\$ 14.20
Transfers Out to Checking Account Closed 12/31/25	\$158.60
Ending Online Sales Account	\$ -
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Total Cash Available	\$ 3,819.38

Christopher Cordrey, Treasurer

Treasurer's Report of the Torreon Navajo Mission Board
Summary Report January 1, 2025 - December 31, 2025

Beginning Balance	\$69,092.40
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Income	
Congregation Offerings	\$28,323.91
Individual Donations	\$4,420.00
Total	\$32,743.91
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Expenses	
Funding for Torreon Navajo Mission	\$28,500.00
Travel Expenses	\$5,000.00
Total	\$33,500.00
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Ending Balance	\$68,336.31

Johnathan Edgecomb, Treasurer

Torreon Navajo Mission Operational Account Statement

Summary Report January 1, 2025 – December 31, 2025

Beginning Balance From Bank Statement \$31,066.32

Income

Donations	\$108,144.90
New Building Donations	\$133,875.90
Sponsorship	\$10,000.00
General Mission Board	\$144,000.00
Interest	\$-
Miscellaneous	\$-
Utilities	\$-
Refund	\$-
Tuition	\$280.00
School Lunch/Concessions	\$-

Total \$396,300.80

Expenses

Allowance	\$140,100.44
Food	\$1,553.39
Clothing	\$-
Housekeeping	\$-
Insurance	\$15,839.13
Medical <i>Includes medical insurance</i>	\$-
Mission Misc.	\$8,510.00
Staff Misc.	\$467.60
Office	\$4,844.48
School Supplies	\$6,815.63
Vehicle Maintenance	\$14,111.39
Grounds Maintenance	\$36,147.28
Transportation	\$25,274.77
Utilities	\$21,145.64
Equipment Maintenance	\$-
School Lunch/Concessions	\$-

New Building Costs	\$82,141.10
<i>As of 12/31/25</i>	
Total	\$356,950.85
Closing Fund Balance	\$70,416.27
Outstanding Checks	
Outstanding Deposits	
Closing Balance From Bank Statement	\$70,416.27

Jonathon Skiles, Treasurer

Treasurer's Report of the African Mission Board
Summary Report January 1, 2025 – December 31, 2025

Beginning Balance	\$37,865.59
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Income	
Congregation Offerings	\$33,134.83
Individual Donations	\$5,080.00
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Total	\$38,214.83
Expenses	
Money Wire Fees	\$300.00
Funding for African Mission	\$42,000.00
Travel Expenses	\$9,120.94
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Total	\$51,420.94
Ending Balance	\$24,659.48

Additional detail will be offered in a verbal report.

Wyan Bowman, Treasurer

Treasurer’s Report of the Church Growth Board
 Summary Report January 1, 2025 – December 31, 2025

Beginning Balance	\$3,500.00
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Income	\$0.00
Expenses	\$0.00
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Ending Balance	\$3,500.00

Mark Andrews, Treasurer

NEW BUSINESS

24. Query #1

Having considered the work of the Committee appointed to review and edit the language and compilation of the Polity and Manual as authorized by 2012 General Conference, we, the 2025 Standing Committee, ask 2026 General Conference to approve this installment of that project. The Committee has reviewed, edited and arranged the Manual for greater clarity and ease of use. The work has been considered and approved by 2025 Standing Committee. 2025 Standing Committee asks General Conference to approve the submitted material.

Elder Mark Cordrey, Moderator
Elder Jason Carpenter, Reading Clerk
Elder Jonathan Skiles, Writing Clerk

The following is the proposed new wording for the Manual; Chapter 5 Order and Succession of Questions through the end of Chapter 9 (as printed here):

***** Submitted Material, Query #1 *****

Queries

~~28. When a question is regularly before the meeting, no other question can be put except:~~

~~-Privileged Questions (urgent matters): Motion to adjourn, question of privilege, motion for orders of the day~~

~~-Incidental Questions: Questions of order, motion for the reading of papers, withdrawal of a motion, suspension of a rule, amendment of an amendment~~

~~-Subsidiary Questions: Motion to lie on the table, postponement to a day certain, commitment, amendment, postpone indefinitely~~

~~These motions are arranged in their order of precedence among themselves.~~

29. A motion to adjourn, unqualified, takes precedence of all others, and is always in order, except (1) When a member is speaking; (2) when the meeting is voting; (3) when no business has been transacted since a motion to adjourn has been decided in the negative.

30. When no other business is before the meeting, a motion to adjourn may be amended. When it supersedes the pending question, it must simply be to "adjourn," without any particular day added, and cannot be amended.

31. A motion to adjourn except to a day certain is not debatable.

32. A motion to lie on the table, decided affirmatively, removes the matter before the meeting, until by a motion and vote it be again taken up.

33. A motion to lie on the table cannot be amended, nor can it be debated.

34. When a member moves the previous question, and this is seconded, the Chair must immediately put the question: "Shall the main question be now put?" A negative decision suppresses the main question for the day. If decided in the affirmative, the main question is to be put immediately.

35. A motion for the previous question cannot be amended or debated.

36. A motion to postpone to a day certain may be amended by substituting one day for another.

37. A subject should be referred to a committee when more careful consideration is required than can be given in the meeting. A subject may also be recommitted.

- ~~38. A motion to commit or recommit may be amended by substituting one committee for another, by altering the numbers, or by instructions.~~
- ~~39. In form, an amendment may be made by: (1) Inserting or adding certain words; (2) striking out certain words; (3) striking out certain words, and inserting or adding others.~~
- ~~40. An amendment may be amended, but an amendment to an amendment cannot be amended.~~
- ~~41. An amendment to an amendment must be decided first.~~
- ~~42. A vote either adopting or rejecting an amendment cannot afterward be altered, except to reconsider.~~
- ~~43. A motion to postpone indefinitely may be amended by making it to a day certain. A matter indefinitely postponed cannot be renewed.~~
- ~~44. All doctrinal queries or petitions with their answers, be voted on by ballot. All other business optional, by ballot or otherwise.~~

~~Doctrinal queries shall require a two-thirds majority to pass.~~

28. All queries will be voted on by ballot. All other business may be voted on optionally by ballot or other methods.
29. All queries will require a two-thirds majority to pass and motions will require a simple majority vote.
30. A query may not be changed or amended by General Conference if it would alter the original meaning or intent of the query. Changes or amendments may only be made to correct improper grammar, punctuation, or clarity.

Committee

31. A Committee may be appointed to consider any particular subject, to obtain information, or to perform certain duties.
32. A Committee may be given instructions at the time of appointment or while in the performance of its duties.
33. The number of members on a special Committee shall be determined by the Moderator, or by the Meeting.
34. The member first appointed by the Moderator shall act as Chairman or the Committee may elect its own Chairman. The

Chairman may also be designated by the motion that established the committee.

35. A committee once dismissed may be reinstated. A committee appointed for one purpose may perform other duties if assigned to do so.

CHAPTER 6

RULES IN CASE OF OFFENCES

Our rules are based on those given in the 18th chapter of Matthew, and are as follows:

1. When an offence occurs between individual members, the offended shall go to the offender seeking to be reconciled, if possible. If reconciliation and forgiveness has occurred, the matter should be put to rest.
2. If reconciliation does not occur, the offended should select one or two others to go with them to assist in the reconciliation. If reconciliation and forgiveness have occurred, the matter should be put to rest.
3. If both preceding steps fail to secure a reconciliation, it shall be the duty of the offended to present the matter to the church and submit to her counsel.
4. If any church member shall be publicly suspect of any criminal activity or gross impropriety, it shall be the duty of the member aware of the transgression to inform the Presiding elder. If there is reason to believe that the accusation may be true, the most judicious steps should be taken to ascertain the truth of the accusation. If the accusation is substantiated, the Presiding elder should make every effort to inform the accused that the matter will be presented to the church for action, and he may appear in his own defense.
5. If an errant member shall voluntarily confess their mistake to the church and manifests satisfactory repentance, no further disciplinary actions will be taken against them, except in cases of public scandal, gross immoralities, or criminal offences.
6. Every member against whom any charge is made shall be permitted to speak in their own defense.

7. Written testimony of individuals who are not members, and have good moral character, may be admitted as supporting evidence in cases of discipline.
8. If a member fails to comply with the church in relation to charges made against them or persistently refuses to appear before the church when asked to do so, they shall be removed from membership by majority vote.

Procedure for Responding to Sexual Abuse

Definition of "Sexual Abuse" for the purpose of this policy: Sexual abuse is sexual contact that involves an adult and an individual under the age of 16 years old.

I. Acute Sexual Abuse

1. All members of the Dunkard Brethren Church shall see themselves as protectors of the vulnerable and abused. Members are to take immediate action, coupled with prayer, to report suspected abuse to local church officials and local authorities.
2. Mandatory reporters (ex. elders, ministers, deacons, or teachers) shall call 911 (or the appropriate agency) to report the incident.
3. The reporter will document their action using the Abuse Response Protocol form (this document can be found in the manual *A Biblical Response to Sexual Abuse*).
4. Any church member criminally charged with sexual abuse shall be placed on probation (considered to be a member not in good standing) by the church pending the outcome of the legal process.
5. During the investigation, the accused shall be removed from all church responsibilities and shall not be allowed to commune.
6. Should the accusations be confirmed to be correct (by confession or conviction), the accused shall be removed from membership.
7. If membership is later reinstated, any person who has been convicted of, or has confessed to, sexual abuse of a minor shall be prohibited from all participation in children's ministry and shall not be eligible to hold any official position (deacon, minister, or elder).

8. Since a hallmark of true repentance is being willing to let go of self preservation, an Offender Covenant shall be established between the Church and the offender. A copy of this agreement shall be forwarded to the Standing Committee and implemented by the offender's congregation. (the Offender Covenant can be found in the manual *A Biblical Response to Sexual Abuse*).
9. If a member has a history of committing sexual abuse and moves to another congregation, a report of the nature of the crimes and actions taken shall be forwarded to the receiving congregation's local officials and presiding elder.
10. If a member has a history of committing sexual abuse and moves to another church, assembly, or congregation, a report of the nature of the crimes and actions taken shall be forwarded to the leadership of the receiving church, assembly, or congregation.

II. Confession of Sexual Abuse - Without Conviction

Sexual abuse may not be revealed for many years, well past the legal statute of limitations.

1. Any church member who is accused of sexual abuse and confesses to the accusations but has never been convicted may be removed from membership if deemed appropriate.
2. Any person who confesses to sexual abuse of a minor shall be prohibited from all participation in children's ministry. They shall not be eligible to hold any official position (deacon, minister, or elder), if they were a professing believer at the time of the abuse.
3. Also, an Offender Covenant shall be established between the Church and the offender. A copy of this agreement shall be forwarded to the Standing Committee.

III. Accused of Sexual Abuse - Without Confession or Conviction

Victims of sexual abuse may not want to report acutely for many different reasons. The accusations may come to light after the statute of limitations has passed.

1. The local church officials shall appoint a committee to investigate the sexual abuse of any church member who denies accusations of sexual abuse and has not been convicted of these crimes. This investigation shall not interfere with or replace the local

authorities' investigation. Individuals with a history of sexual abuse, or of failing to properly handle reports of sexual abuse, are not permitted to serve on such committees. The local committee shall forward a report of their investigation to Standing Committee.

2. If the investigation confirms the accusations of sexual abuse, the accused shall be removed from membership in the Dunkard Brethren Church and permitted to attend church services and church activities only after signing an Offender Covenant. Also, a report of the findings shall be given to local authorities, local congregation, District elders, and Standing Committee.
3. If the person later confesses to sexual abuse, repents, receives licensed, clinical counseling, and then desires membership to be reinstated, the requirement of an Offender Covenant shall remain in effect. A copy of this agreement shall be forwarded to the Standing Committee.
4. If membership is later reinstated, any person who confesses to sexual abuse of a minor shall be prohibited from all participation in children's ministry. They shall not be eligible to hold any official position (deacon, minister, or elder), if they were a professing believer at the time of the abuse.

IV. Care of the Victim

1. If the victim is in immediate danger or requires immediate medical attention, call 911 first.
2. Create a care and protection plan with the victim when appropriate (please review the manual A Biblical Response to Sexual Abuse for resources on the care of sexual abuse victims).
3. Ensure the victim receives the counseling and care needed.
4. A report of the plan for care shall be forwarded to Standing Committee.

V. General Guidelines

1. Church officials and members of a congregation shall refrain from testifying on behalf of the accused except when subpoenaed or after receiving written consent from the presiding elder and the majority of the official body.

2. Letters of recommendation written by church officials or members for the accused which shall be presented at trial or prior to sentencing will also need written approval from the presiding elder and the majority of the official body.
3. The congregation where the perpetrator held membership shall cover the cost of counseling for the victim(s) as well as ancillary costs, up to \$10,000 per victim. This counseling is to be provided by a Biblically based, licensed clinical counselor. Additional financial assistance may be requested through the Dunkard Brethren Church Relief Board.
4. No Retaliation or Disparagement - Retaliation and disparagement against victims or reporters is contrary to the Anabaptist values of the church. No one reporting concerns of sexual abuse shall suffer harassment, retaliation, or disparagement as a result of reporting. Anyone associated with the church who retaliates against a good-faith reporter or victim shall be subject to church discipline and/or removal from membership.
5. The central theme of the gospel is Heaven's passion and provisions to redeem and reconcile every soul to fellowship and acceptance to their Creator. Sexual abuse is a tragic event, but it is not beyond Heaven's redemption. Care of the eternal soul should never be neglected in pursuit of justice. The family of God is called to make every effort to provide support, hope, and healing to both victims and abusers.
6. The hallmarks of this reconciliation process will include a willingness on the part of the perpetrator to be faithful to the Word, accountable to the church, and teachable. It will include a specific accountability and discipleship plan approved and put into action by the local leadership and may include restitution to the victim as evidence of gospel change.

Church Trials

Church trials are conducted with fairness and equality.

The accused shall be given a copy of the charges, signed by the author, at least ten days before the trial.

Scriptural evidence is necessary for conviction. Testimony from non-members may be used to support the church's decision.

Matthew 18 applies to all strictly personal matters. Trespasses of a general nature are handled on general principles.

All actions regarding church trials are to be respected by the local membership and all other congregations.

Rehearing and Restoring

When a member who has been disfellowshipped or an official who has been removed from office requests reconsideration and reinstatement, the congregation where he currently resides may restore his membership or office. If he has moved since being disfellowshipped or removed from office, restoration is also contingent upon approval of the congregation from which he moved.

Committees

1. General or District Conferences may grant request for committees when they feel every reasonable effort to settle difficulties, has failed.
2. Committees report their work to the body appointing them. In cases of appeal, the work of the committees becomes final when ratified by the body appointing them.
3. Committees will decide who will pay their expenses, except in the case of appeal. In this case, the expenses will be paid by the party losing the case. Committees may, in cases of appeal, require the appellant to deposit sufficient funds with the proper treasurer to cover the estimated cost.
4. When an elder persists in conduct that is not in harmony with the faith and practice of the brotherhood as defined by General Conference, he shall have a fair trial before the church where his membership is held. Elders shall be tried by a committee of three elders appointed by District Elders' Meeting. If he refuses to be tried or persists in being insubordinate when tried, they shall remove him from office and remove him from membership, if necessary, with or without the congregation's approval. Such action shall be respected by the other congregations of the Brotherhood. Reinstatement to office or to membership may only be done by a committee appointed by Standing Committee or by a majority decision of the church where his membership is held if also favored by a majority of the District Elders.

Standing Committee has oversight of the Brotherhood at large. This includes the authority to send committees on their own initiative or by request. These committees may address concerns or carry out disciplinary actions, including those against Elders.

Individual Elders have no authority or justification to involve themselves in the troubles of other congregations or interfere in any way.

CHAPTER 7

SUNDAY SCHOOLS

General Conference has established the following methods for organizing and conducting Sunday Schools.

- Art. 1. Nominations for the superintendent and Sunday-school teachers may be made by the official body or the congregation.
- Art. 2. The Church Council may then choose to vote by ballot from the nominations.
- Art. 3. Where Article 1 and 2 are implemented, other officers and teachers may be elected by the Church Council. All officers and teachers should be in harmony with the faith and practice of the church.
- Art. 4. Brethren should be chosen as teachers for adult and teen classes, while sisters may be used for children's classes.
- Art. 5. All teaching materials used by the Sunday school should be approved by the official body of the church.
- Art. 6. Participation in games, plays and performances that are manifestly sinful is contrary to the Gospel and to a pure heart.
- Art. 7. The purpose of Sunday-school is to disciple students in the pursuit of godliness and nurture their souls toward salvation.

CHAPTER 8

THE MARRIAGE RELATION

Elders or Ministers who are asked to perform a wedding ceremony should verify that the couple is scripturally and legally eligible for marriage.

The marriage relation is of Divine appointment, being instituted by God, confirmed by Christ and taught by his Apostles. The love and wisdom of our Heavenly Father was strikingly displayed in His plan of placing the inhabitants of the earth into families. The constitution of the man and woman and their mutual dependance upon each other, as our Savior clearly showed, was designed and appointed from the beginning. This illustrates the sacredness of the marriage relationship. Established in Eden, it has been perpetuated throughout time, by which God has sought to promote the welfare of the human race. Historical

negative, have accumulated which prove that the highest interests of humanity center in marriage and the family. Marriage is an institution of sacred importance, therefore, it should be entered into with an understanding of all the sacred obligations belonging to it. The minister performing the ceremony should try to impress upon the minds of those entering the marriage of the sacredness of the institution and the important responsibilities they are assuming in their new relationship.

As a guide to assist ministers, the following scripts of the marriage ceremony are provided.

Script No. 1

When the couple presents themselves before the minister, he may say:

“Marriage is an institution of Divine appointment, sanctioned by Christ and taught by His apostles, and is designed to increase human happiness and support social order.

“You will find all of the necessary guidance you need in the Bible, and it should be your primary source for truth and direction in your marriage.”

“As you have now come to this moment with the desire to be united in holy matrimony, in token of your decided choice for each other as partners for life, you, _____ and _____, please join hands.”

(Joining of hands.)

“Do you solemnly covenant, before Almighty God and these witnesses, to receive each other as husband and wife? Do you agree to perform the responsibilities of the marriage, pledging yourselves to love each other, and making every reasonable effort to promote each other’s happiness,

until this union you are now entering is dissolved by death?" (Both answer in the affirmative.)

"Based upon the covenant you have now made and by the authority vested in me as a minister of the Gospel, I pronounce you husband and wife. What God hath joined together, let no man put asunder."

The ceremony is concluded with prayer.

Script No. 2

When the couple presents themselves before the minister, he may say to the man:

"Do you, _____, take _____, to be your lawful wedded wife, providing for her all the godly blessings and responsibilities of marriage, forsaking all others and cleaving to her alone until separated by death?"

(Answer by the man, "I do.")

Addressing the woman:

"Do you, _____, take _____, to be your lawful wedded husband, providing for him all the godly blessings and responsibilities of marriage, forsaking all others and cleaving to him alone until separated by death?"

(Answer by the woman, "I do.")

The parties now join hands and the minister will say:

"Upon the covenant which you have made before God and these witnesses, I, by the authority vested in me as a minister of the Gospel, do now pronounce you husband and wife, and what God hath joined together let no man put asunder."

The minister now lays his hands on the couple and offers an appropriate prayer.

CHAPTER 9

BURIAL SERVICE

As a guide to assist ministers in burial services, the following script for the burial service is provided:

Our funeral services are conducted in a manner similar to our preaching services, and the subject used should be in harmony with the occasion. Part of the message should be directed to the family and friends of the deceased.

SERVICES AT THE GRAVE – At the graveside service, an appropriate Scripture should be read. The following is provided as an example:

“There is one glory of the sun, and another glory of the moon, and another glory of the stars; for one star differeth from another star in glory. So also is the resurrection of the dead. It is sown in corruption; it is raised in incorruption; it is sown in dishonor; it is raised in glory; it is sown in weakness; it is raised in power; it is sown a natural body; it is raised a spiritual body. There is a natural body, and there is a spiritual body. And so it is written, the first man Adam was made a living soul; the last Adam was made a quickening spirit. Howbeit that was not first which is spiritual, but that which is natural; and afterward that which is spiritual. The first man is of the earth, earthy; the second man is the Lord from heaven. As is the earthy, such are they also that are earthy; and as is the heavenly, such are they also that are heavenly. And as we have borne the image of the earthy, we shall also bear the image of the heavenly. Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; neither doth corruption inherit incorruption. Behold, I shew you a mystery: We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump; for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. For this corruption must put on incorruption and this mortal must put on immortality. So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written. Death is swallowed up in victory. O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory? The sting of death is sin; and the strength of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. I Cor. 15:41-58.

When convenient and appropriate, hymns may be sung at the graveside service.

At the proper time, the following committal of the body to the earth is provided as an example:

“Forasmuch as it has pleased Almighty God in his wise providence to remove from us the soul of the departed, we therefore commit _____ body to the ground. Earth to earth, and dust to dust, looking for the general resurrection in the last day, and the life of the world to come. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, at whose second coming in glorious majesty to judge the world, the earth and the sea shall give up their dead, and the corruptible bodies of those who sleep in them shall be raised and changed and made like unto his own glorious body, according to the mighty working whereby He is able to subdue all things to Himself.”

A short prayer should be offered before dismissal.

***** End of Submitted Material, Query #1 *****

25. Query #2

We, the New Life congregation of the Dunkard Brethren Church, petition 2026 General Conference through the Fourth District to make the following changes to the Dunkard Brethren Polity.

Current Reading

ARTICLE XI – Membership

Sec. 2.

2. Members may be accepted into the Dunkard Brethren Church from religious groups of similar faith and practice, who have been baptized by immersion for the remission of sins, after being fully instructed as all applicants for membership. They are asked to make the usual answer of acceptance, approved by the Church Council.

Proposed Reading

ARTICLE XI – Membership

Sec. 2.

2. Members may be accepted into the Dunkard Brethren Church from religious groups of similar faith and practice, who have received a Christian believer’s baptism, after being fully instructed as all applicants for membership. They are asked to make the usual answer of acceptance, approved by the Church Council.

Presiding Elder - Mark Cordrey

Clerk - Merle Brovont

Query as amended by the District

We, the New Life Congregation of the Dunkard Brethren Church, petition 2026 General Conference through the Fourth District to make the following changes to the Dunkard Brethren Polity.

Current Reading

ARTICLE XI – Membership

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- 2. Members may be accepted into the Dunkard Brethren Church from religious groups of similar faith and practice, who have been baptized by immersion for the remission of sins, after being fully instructed as all applicants for membership. They are asked to make the usual answer of acceptance, approved by the Church Council.

Proposed Reading

ARTICLE XI – Membership

Sec. 2.

- 2. Members may be accepted into the Dunkard Brethren Church from religious groups of similar faith and practice, who have received a Christian believer’s water baptism for the remission of sins, (Acts 2:38) after being fully instructed as all applicants for membership. They are asked to make the usual answer of acceptance, approved by the Church Council.

Action by 4th District: Passed as amended to 2026 General Conference.

*Mark Cordrey, Moderator
Chris Cordrey, Writing Clerk*

26. Query #3

We, the Pleasant Home Congregation of the Dunkard Brethren Church Petition General Conference 2026 through the 4th District to change the established protocol for the process, preparing of, and receiving credentials for District Meetings and General Conferences. This new procedure would

be added to the Church Manual by adding a new chapter #10 titled “Business Meeting Credentials.”

District Meeting

1. The retiring District Writing Clerk will provide a sign in sheet described below for the Delegates to sign the morning of the District Meeting.
2. Presiding Elders, along with the Church Clerk’s acknowledgement, will notify the District Writing Clerk by mail or email a list of Members chosen by the Congregation and are in good standing and able to participate in the business meeting Delegate Body. This communication is to be done at least 1 week prior to the business meeting
3. In extreme circumstances, Presiding Elders can phone the Writing Clerk before the meeting communicating the Congregations approval of an individual that was not included on the original list.
4. The Moderator will oversee the seating of Delegates and have oversight of any question(s) and potential decisions pertaining to who is allowed to be in the Delegate Body.
5. If there is a problem with a Delegate being seated the Moderator will consult with the meeting Officers and the group will decide as to how to proceed with the matter at hand.

General Conference:

1. The retiring Standing Committee Writing Clerk will provide a sign in sheet described below for Elders to sign the morning that Standing Committee meetings begin at General Conference. This same sign in sheet will be given to the General Conference Writing Clerk and used to sign in delegates for the General Conference Business Meeting.
2. Presiding Elders, along with the Church Clerk’s acknowledgement, will notify the retiring General Conference Writing Clerk by mail or email a list of Officials from the Congregation they Shepherd that are in good standing and able to participate in the upcoming business meeting delegate body. This communication is to be done at least 1 week prior to the business meeting
3. In extreme circumstances, Presiding Elders can phone the General Conference Writing Clerk before the meeting communicating his

approval (along with the approval of the Church Clerk) of an individual that was not included on the original list.

4. The Moderator will oversee the seating of Delegates and have oversight of any question(s) and potential decisions pertaining to who is allowed to be in the Delegate Body.
5. If there is a problem with a Delegate being seated the Moderator will consult with the meeting Officers and the group will decide as to how to proceed with the matter at hand.

Signatures and sign-in sheet required at District Meeting and General Conference

1. The same sign in form will be able to be used at District meetings or General Conference. The sign-in sheet will have the following format.
 - District Meeting or General Conference date, Location, and Officers present.
 - 3 questions will be asked. These questions will be listed at the top of the page.
 1. Are you familiar with the Bible’s teachings along with their life applications and acknowledge the Dunkard Brethren Polity as a means of applying those biblical teachings as understood by the Dunkard Brethren Church?
 2. Are you an agreement, as far as you know, with the principles and doctrines of the Dunkard Brethren Church?
 3. Are you willing, after hearing all the deliberations, to vote as the Holy Spirit may direct?
2. The sign in sheet will have numbered signature spaces sufficient for the number of delegates who are present at the meeting. Signing is considered equal with a yes in answering the questions. This sign-in sheet will also serve as an official count of Delegates.
3. The creation and the maintenance of any changes needed to the sign-in sheet will be administered by the Publication Board.

Mark Cordrey, Presiding Elder
Chris Cordrey, Writing Clerk

Query as amended by the District

We, the Pleasant Home Congregation of the Dunkard Brethren Church Petition General Conference 2026 through the 4th District to change the established protocol for the process, preparing of, and receiving credentials for District Meetings and General Conferences. This new procedure would be added to the Church Manual by adding a new chapter #10 titled “Business Meeting Credentials.”

District Meeting

1. The retiring District Writing Clerk will provide a sign-in sheet described below for the Delegates to sign the morning of the District Meeting.
2. Presiding Elders, along with the Church Clerk’s acknowledgement, will notify the District Writing Clerk by mail or email a list of Members chosen by the Congregation who are in good standing and able to participate in the business meeting Delegate Body. This communication is to be done at least 1 week prior to the business meeting.
3. In extreme circumstances, Presiding Elders may call the Writing Clerk before the meeting communicating the Congregations approval of an individual that was not included on the original list.
4. The Moderator will oversee the seating of Delegates and have oversight of any question(s) and potential decisions pertaining to who is allowed to be in the Delegate Body.
5. If there is a problem with a Delegate being seated the Moderator will consult with the meeting Officers and the group will decide how to proceed with the matter at hand.

General Conference:

1. The retiring Standing Committee Writing Clerk will provide a sign-in sheet described below for Elders to sign the morning that Standing Committee meetings begin at General Conference. This same sign-in sheet will be given to the General Conference Writing Clerk and will be used to sign-in delegates for the General Conference Business Meeting.
2. Presiding Elders, along with the Church Clerk’s acknowledgement, will notify the retiring General Conference Writing Clerk by mail or email a

list of Officials from the Congregation they Shepherd who are in good standing and able to participate in the upcoming business meeting delegate body. This communication is to be done at least 1 week prior to the business meeting

3. In extreme circumstances, Presiding Elders may call the General Conference Writing Clerk before the meeting communicating his approval (along with the approval of the Church Clerk) of an individual that was not included on the original list.
4. The Moderator will oversee the seating of Delegates and have oversight of any question(s) and potential decisions pertaining to who is allowed to be in the Delegate Body.
5. If there is a problem with a Delegate being seated the Moderator will consult with the meeting Officers and the group will decide how to proceed with the matter at hand.

Signatures and sign-in sheet required at District Meeting and General Conference

1. The same sign-in form will be able to be used at District meetings or General Conferences. The sign-in sheet will have the following format.
 - District Meeting or General Conference date, Location, and Officers present.
 - 3 questions will be asked. These questions will be listed at the top of the page.
 1. Are you familiar with the Bible's teachings along with their life applications and acknowledge the Dunkard Brethren Polity as a means of applying those biblical teachings as understood by the Dunkard Brethren Church?
 2. Are you in agreement, as far as you know, with the principles and doctrines of the Dunkard Brethren Church?
 3. Are you willing, after hearing all the deliberations, to vote as the Holy Spirit may direct?
2. The sign-in sheet will have numbered signature spaces sufficient for the number of delegates who are present at the meeting. Signing is

considered agreeing with the questions. This sign-in sheet will also serve as an official count of Delegates.

3. The creation and the maintenance of any changes needed to the sign-in sheet will be administered by the Publication Board.

Action by 4th District: Passed as amended to 2026 General Conference.

Mark Cordrey, Moderator
Chris Cordrey, Writing Clerk

27. Query #4

The Quinter Dunkard Brethren Church petitions the General Conference, through the Third District, to make the following changes to the programming for general conferences. This action would establish a committee consisting of the officers of the general conference and four members, elected through each district meeting from nominations submitted by the congregations within the district. Standard term limits will apply, with no exceptions, to partial terms. The committee rotation will have the person from the district where the conference is being held rotating off the committee after that conference. The committee would be assembled in 2027 to begin planning the 2028 general conference. This committee will be responsible for developing the annual Dunkard Brethren General Conference preaching and teaching program.

This will include general keynote sessions and complementary and stand-alone workshop sessions in leadership, education, parenting, counseling, writing, speaking, Biblical studies, missions, discipleship, music, and worship. This will also include workshops for women, taught by women, and workshops specifically geared to youth. The committee will have the discretion to pick speakers based on gifts and expertise in specific topics. As a rule, intra-conference speakers will be selected; however, the committee will have the discretion to bring in extra-conference speakers as needed to address specific topics. The general outline of the sessions will be as follows, but the committee will have the discretion to change the schedule as needed.

Saturday

2 pm Keynote Message
3 pm General Session
7 pm General Session

Sunday

10 am General Session/Sunday School for Children
11 am General Session
2 pm Ministry moments/testimony
7 pm Youth Message

Monday

10 am General Session
11 am Multiple Workshops/SS for the Children
2 pm Workshops
3 pm Workshops
7 pm General Session

Tuesday

10 am General Session
11 am Multiple Workshops/SS for the Children
2 pm Workshops/Service Activity
7 pm Keynote Closing Message

Wednesday

Business Meeting

*Mark Andrews, Presiding Elder
Bradley Wertz, Writing Clerk*

Query as amended by the District:

The Quinter Dunkard Brethren Church petitions the General Conference, through the Third District, to make the following changes to the programming for general conferences. This action would establish a committee consisting of the officers of the general conference and four members, elected through each district meeting from nominations submitted by the congregations within the district. Standard term limits will apply, with no exceptions, to partial terms. The committee rotation will have the person from the district where the conference is being held

rotating off the committee after that conference. The committee would be assembled in 2027 to begin planning the 2028 general conference. This committee will be responsible for developing the annual Dunkard Brethren General Conference preaching and teaching program.

This will include general keynote sessions and complementary and stand-alone workshop sessions in leadership, education, parenting, counseling, writing, speaking, Biblical studies, missions, discipleship, music, and worship. This will also include workshops for women, taught by women, and workshops specifically geared to youth. The committee will have the discretion to pick speakers based on gifts and expertise in specific topics. As a rule, intra-conference speakers will be selected; however, the committee will have the discretion to bring in extra-conference speakers as needed to address specific topics. The general outline of the sessions will be as follows, but the committee will have the discretion to change the schedule as needed. The following is merely an example of a program using our current Saturday-through-Wednesday schedule. The actual layout would be worked out by the committee.

Saturday

2 pm	Keynote Message
3 pm	General Session
7 pm	General Session

Sunday

10 am	General Session/Sunday School for Children
11 am	General Session
2 pm	Ministry moments/testimony
7 pm	Youth Message

Monday

10 am	General Session
11 am	Multiple Workshops/SS for the Children
2 pm	Workshops
3 pm	Workshops
7 pm	General Session

Tuesday

10 am	General Session
11 am	Multiple Workshops/SS for the Children
2 pm	Workshops/Service Activity

7 pm Keynote Closing Message

Wednesday

Business Meeting

Action by 3rd District: Passed as amended to 2026 General Conference.

*Mark Andrews, Moderator
Jonathan Skiles, Writing Clerk*

28. Query #5

The Quinter Dunkard Brethren Church petitions the General Conference through the Third District meeting to take the following action.

Dissolve the Headship Covering Committee

The Headship Covering Committee's continued existence no longer aligns with its historical genesis and its specific mandate to facilitate discussion, decision-making, and oversight. This proposal is based on the understanding that, over time, the utility of certain committees can wane, their mandates may become obsolete, or more efficient structures, such as the leadership of local congregations, may absorb their functions. We would like to thank the Headship Covering Committee for its work in helping the conference navigate the issues that ultimately resulted in the 2022 Conference decision on veilings.

*Mark Andrews, Presiding Elder
Bradley Wertz, Writing Clerk*

Action by 3rd District: Passed to 2026 General Conference.

*Bro. Mark Andrews, Moderator
Jonathan Skiles, Writing Clerk*

29. Query #6

The Quinter Dunkard Brethren Church petitions the General Conference through the Third District meeting to take the following action.

Eliminate the following Section of the polity found under the heading METHODS AND GOVERNMENT of the DUNKARD BRETHERN CHURCH, due to its lack of current cultural significance.

Sisters' Aid Societies

The Church sees no objection to a simple organization for business purposes, but admonishes that all worldly methods of raising money be avoided.

*Mark Andrews, Presiding Elder
Bradley Wertz, Writing Clerk*

Action by 3rd District: Passed to 2026 General Conference.

*Mark Andrews, Moderator
Jonathan Skiles Writing Clerk*

30. Query #7

We, the Juniper Hills Congregation of the Dunkard Brethren Church, respectfully petition 2026 General Conference through the Third District to remove the “Resolutions” item of business from the General Conference business program. A standardized letter of thanks will be given to the Conference host by the Standing Committee writing clerk in lieu of them receiving a copy of the resolutions.

Respectfully,

*Jonathan Skiles, Presiding Elder
Devin Meyers, Writing Clerk*

Action by 3rd District: Passed to 2026 General Conference.

*Mark Andrews, Moderator
Jonathan Skiles, Writing Clerk*

31. Query #8

The Quinter Congregation petitions the General Conference through the Third District meeting to take the following actions to reduce the cost of the General Conference.

We respectfully submit this petition to request a strategic adjustment to the scheduling of our annual General Conference. Specifically, we propose moving from the current Saturday–Wednesday format to a Thursday-through-Sunday schedule. The formal Business Meeting would be held on the first Saturday of June.

*Mark Andrews, Presiding Elder
Bradley Wertz, Writing Clerk*

Query as amended by the District:

The Quinter Congregation petitions the General Conference through the Third District meeting to take the following actions to reduce the cost of the General Conference.

We respectfully submit this petition to request a strategic adjustment to the scheduling of our annual General Conference. Specifically, we propose moving from the current Saturday-Wednesday format to a Thursday-Sunday schedule. The formal Business Meeting would be held on the first or second Saturday of June, at the discretion of the lodging committee. General Conference would begin on Thursday at 2 PM and conclude on Sunday after lunch.

Action by 3rd District: Passed as amended to 2026 General Conference.

*Mark Andrews, Moderator
Jonathan Skiles, Writing Clerk*

32. Query #9

The Quinter Dunkard Brethren Church petitions the General Conference through the Third District meeting to approve the following rewriting of the Rules for General Conference.

From the following:

Rules for General Conference

1. All properly presented questions (business items) will be read by the Reading Clerk after which the Moderator will declare those items the business of the meeting.
2. No one will speak more than twice on the same question. The first speech will be limited to fifteen minutes and the second one to five minutes.
3. The reading of any question may be called for a second time but not more often if there is an objection made.
4. No one will speak without first addressing the Moderator and being recognized by him.
5. The Moderator will require every member, when speaking, to confine their remarks to the subject being considered at that time.
6. Any member using personalities or derogatory statements in their speech will be called to order by the Moderator. They will not be given the floor to speak again during that conference until they have withdrawn the objectionable statements.
7. The Moderator will decide who has the right to the floor and when their time expires.
8. The Moderator will determine when the discussion on each subject will close and when the question will be brought to final resolution. If an objection is made to his ruling, an appeal must be made immediately by motion seconded by three delegates. The Conference will then decide the matter. All members present will have the right to participate in the discussion of all questions before the meeting.
9. Motions on or amendments to queries that are presented to General Conference will not be entertained by the Moderator until those presenting the query have opportunity to explain its merits, which can be

discussed by those at the meeting. After discussion, if there is not a consensus of sentiment in the meeting, the Moderator may entertain amendments to the item.

10. All queries will be voted on by ballot. All other business may be voted on optionally by ballot or other methods.
11. All queries will require a two-thirds majority to pass and motions will require a simple majority vote.
12. A query may not be changed or amended by General Conference if it would alter the original meaning or intent of the query. Changes or amendments may only be made to correct improper grammar, punctuation, or clarity.

To:

Rules for General Conference

1. Presenting and Discussing Business Items

- a. The Reading Clerk will present all official queries and business items. Following this, the Moderator will formally introduce these items for discussion. The sending congregation or their delegate will then show the merits of their item.
- b. All members of the Conference present are entitled to participate in discussions. To speak, members must first address the Moderator and be recognized.

2. Speaking Limits and Conduct

- a. Members may speak twice on any given question. The initial speech is limited to fifteen minutes, and the second to five minutes.
- b. The Moderator will intercede if any member uses derogatory language or personal attacks. Such a member will not be permitted to speak again during the conference until they retract their objectionable statements. Speakers must confine their remarks to the current topic under consideration. The Moderator will determine who has the floor and when their speaking time has concluded.

3. Ending Debate and Voting

- a. The Moderator is responsible for determining when discussion on a subject will close and when it will proceed to a final resolution.

Should a ruling by the Moderator be challenged, an immediate appeal must be made via a motion seconded by at least three delegates, after which the Conference will decide the matter.

- b. A delegate may also "Call the Question", which is a motion to end the debate. The motion requires a second and a ballot vote to pass with a two-thirds majority.
- c. Queries must be voted on by ballot and require a two-thirds majority to pass. Other business items may be voted on by ballot or other methods, at the discretion of the Conference.
- d. Motions that receive objections, excluding those related to amending a query, will pass with a simple majority.

4. Amending Queries

- a. Queries cannot be changed or amended by the General Conference unless a delegate from the sending congregation motions to allow amendments. Only then will the Moderator entertain motions or amendments to queries presented to the General Conference.
- b. If an objection is raised to an amending motion and a vote is taken, the amendment will require a two-thirds majority to pass.

Mark Andrews, Presiding Elder
Bradley Wertz, Writing Clerk

Query as amended by the District:

The Quinter Dunkard Brethren Church petitions the General Conference through the Third District meeting to approve the following rewriting of the Rules for General Conference.

From the following:

Rules for General Conference

1. All properly presented questions (business items) will be read by the Reading Clerk after which the Modera-tor will declare those items the business of the meeting.

2. No one will speak more than twice on the same question. The first speech will be limited to fifteen minutes and the second one to five minutes.
3. The reading of any question may be called for a second time but not more often if there is an objection made.
4. No one will speak without first addressing the Moderator and being recognized by him.
5. The Moderator will require every member, when speaking, to confine their remarks to the subject being considered at that time.
6. Any member using personalities or derogatory statements in their speech will be called to order by the Moderator. They will not be given the floor to speak again during that conference until they have withdrawn the objectionable statements.
7. The Moderator will decide who has the right to the floor and when their time expires.
8. The Moderator will determine when the discussion on each subject will close and when the question will be brought to final resolution. If an objection is made to his ruling, an appeal must be made immediately by motion seconded by three delegates. The Conference will then decide the matter. All members present will have the right to participate in the discussion of all questions before the meeting.
9. Motions on or amendments to queries that are presented to General Conference will not be entertained by the Moderator until those presenting the query have opportunity to explain its merits, which can be discussed by those at the meeting. After discussion, if there is not a consensus of sentiment in the meeting, the Moderator may entertain amendments to the item.
10. All queries will be voted on by ballot. All other business may be voted on optionally by ballot or other methods.
11. All queries will require a two-thirds majority to pass and motions will require a simple majority vote.
12. A query may not be changed or amended by General Conference if it would alter the original meaning or intent of the query. Changes or

amendments may only be made to correct improper grammar, punctuation, or clarity.

To:

Rules for General Conference

1. Presenting and Discussing Business Items

- a. The Reading Clerk will present all official queries and business items. Following this, the Moderator will formally introduce these items for discussion. The sending congregation or their delegate will then show the merits of their item.
- b. All members of the Conference present are entitled to participate in discussions. To speak, members must first address the Moderator and be recognized.

2. Speaking Limits and Conduct

- a. Members may speak twice on any given question. The initial speech is limited to ten minutes, and the second to five minutes.
- b. The Moderator will intercede if any member uses derogatory language or personal attacks. Such a member will not be permitted to speak again during the conference until they retract their objectionable statements. Speakers must confine their remarks to the current topic under consideration. The Moderator will determine who has the floor and when their speaking time has concluded.

3. Ending Debate and Voting

- a. The Moderator is responsible for determining when discussion on a subject will close and when it will proceed to a final resolution. Should a ruling by the Moderator be challenged, an immediate appeal must be made via a motion seconded by at least three delegates, after which the Conference will decide the matter.
- b. A delegate may also “Call the Question” which is a motion to end the debate. The motion requires a second and a ballot vote to pass with a two-thirds majority.
- c. Queries must be voted on by ballot and require a two-thirds majority to pass. Other business items may be voted on by ballot or other methods, at the discretion of the Conference.

- d. Motions that receive objections, excluding those related to amending a query, will pass with a simple majority.

4. Amending Queries

- a. Queries cannot be changed or amended by the General Conference unless a delegate from the sending congregation motions to allow amendments. Only then will the Moderator entertain motions or amendments to queries presented to the General Conference. An amendment would not be entertained unless it was made or seconded by a delegate from the sending congregation.
- b. If an objection is raised to an amending motion and a vote is taken, the amendment will require a four-fifths majority to pass.

Action by 3rd District: Passed as amended to 2026 General Conference.

*Mark Andrews, Moderator
Jonathan Skiles, Writing Clerk*

33. Query #10

We, the Shrewsbury Congregation of the Dunkard Brethren Church, petition General Conference, through District Meeting of the First District, to approve the following:

Going forward, Board Members added to the currently existing sub-boards of the General Mission Board (Torreon Navajo Mission Board and African Mission Board) will be nominated by Standing Committee and approved by action of General Conference.

Board Members of any future (additional) sub-boards created by the General Mission Board will be appointed to serve by the General Mission Board. Beginning in the sixth year following its creation, Board Members added to that sub-board will be nominated by Standing Committee and approved by action of General Conference.

*Robert Lehigh, Presiding Elder
Chad Sweitzer, Church Clerk*

Query as amended by District Meeting:

We, the Shrewsbury Congregation of the Dunkard Brethren Church, petition General Conference, through District Meeting of the First District, to approve the following:

Going forward, Board Members added to the currently existing sub-boards of the General Mission Board (Torreon Navajo Mission Board and African Mission Board) will be nominated by Standing Committee and approved by action of General Conference.

Board Members of any future (additional) sub-boards created by the General Mission Board will be appointed to serve by the General Mission Board. Beginning in the sixth year following its creation, Board Members added to that sub-board will be nominated by Standing Committee and approved by action of General Conference.

We recommend that all potential board nominees be contacted prior to nomination. If needed, board vacancies may be filled by Standing Committee, to serve in an interim basis, until the next General Conference.

Action by 1st District: Passed as amended to 2026 General Conference.

Robert Lehigh, Moderator
Dennis Klinedinst, Writing Clerk

34. Resolutions

35. Adjournment

Addendum #1

2026 General Conference Business Program

Query #11

The rising cost of conference has a financial burden on the brotherhood accounts. We, the CornerStone congregation of the Second District, ask that conference would consider the following option. Determine an estimated cost for conference based upon the previous year and/or current information. The amount would then be divided by the total number of members in the brotherhood and sent to each congregation. Each congregation would gather the appropriate funds based upon the membership count in their congregation. The appropriate committee will set a specific date for the collected funds to be sent from each congregations General Treasury. If needed, General Conference could cover any remaining cost of the conference for that year.

*Bart Hoblit, Presiding Elder
Ryan Flora, Church Clerk*

Query as amended by District Meeting:

We, the Cornerstone congregation of the second district, ask that conference would consider the following option. The conference locating committee, working with the trustee board, will estimate cost for conference based upon the previous year and/or current information. The amount would then be divided by the approximate number of members in the brotherhood and sent to each congregation. Each congregation would gather the appropriate funds based upon the membership count in their congregation. The conference locating committee will set a specific date for the collected funds to be sent from each congregation conference locating committee working with the trustee board will set a specific date for the collected funds to be sent from each congregation to the trustee board.

Action by 2nd District: Passed as amended to 2026 General Conference

*Dennis St. John, Moderator
Alec Brock, Writing Clerk*