

1 Amend and readopt Resolution #3107. Mission Personnel in the United States as follows:

2 **# 3107. Mission Personnel in the United States**

3 WHEREAS, mission personnel in the United States, which includes church and community  
4 workers, global mission fellows, ~~US-2, mission interns, summer interns~~, community developers,  
5 rural chaplains, lay missionaries, and others, have faithfully and effectively enabled The United  
6 Methodist Church to facilitate mission and ministry across the United States in ~~settings often~~  
7 ~~neglected and overlooked by others~~ impoverished and oppressive settings; and

8 WHEREAS, the mission of the Church is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation  
9 of the world; and

10 ~~WHEREAS, for many people in the United States, life is becoming increasingly difficult, with~~  
11 ~~the basic necessities of food, shelter, health care, job and educational opportunities, childcare,~~  
12 ~~and transportation required for daily survival often being beyond reach; and~~

13 WHEREAS, God continues to hear the cries of the oppressed, impoverished, and neglected  
14 people; and

15 WHEREAS, God continues to call persons to offer themselves for service with the poor to  
16 provide both compassionate care and personal empowerment; and

17 WHEREAS, The United Methodist Church, with its unique Wesleyan traditions of identity and  
18 advocacy with the poor and its historical focus on social issues and human development, is  
19 challenged by God to be radically attentive and responsive to marginalized and dispossessed  
20 people and to bear responsibility for keeping their plight before the total church and world  
21 community; and

22 WHEREAS, mission personnel in the United States provide leadership vital to initiate and  
23 maintain cooperative ministries, including communities of shalom and missionary programs and  
24 other efforts that focus attention on the needs of women, children, youth, racial and ethnic  
25 populations, the aging and people with disabilities in both rural and urban areas;

26 *Therefore, be it resolved*, that The United Methodist Church reaffirm its commitment to  
27 impoverished people and oppressed communities in the United States by creating and  
28 maintaining among its highest levels of priority the recruitment, training, and placement of  
29 mission personnel in the United States who can offer Christ and enable people, churches, and  
30 communities to move beyond their present circumstances to participate in healthy, whole  
31 communities;

32 ~~*Be it further resolved*, that new and innovative means of providing financial support for mission~~  
33 ~~personnel in the United States by developed as The United Methodist Church at all levels~~  
34 ~~confronts the challenge to deal with limited available resources.~~

35 *Be it further resolved*, that the United Methodist Church at all levels encourage extravagant  
36 generosity as a means of providing financial support for mission personnel in the United States.

37 **RATIONALE:**

38 A reaffirmation of the powerful witness and passionate ministry of mission personnel in the  
39 United States is well deserved. Global Mission Fellows is the new name for all ministry  
40 opportunities for young people.

41 *Date:* May 4, 2015

42 *Submitted by:* United Methodist Rural Advocates