

Proposed Constitution Updates

For vote during the August 1, 2026 AACA Annual Meeting

Overview

The AACA Board is proposing these four updates for the following reasons:

1. Remove the Cumberland Valley Conference because it no longer exists.
2. Remove the Family Camp Committee and add responsibility for naming Family Camp directors to the AACA Board to reduce our staffing burden.
3. Remove the Christian Education Committee to further reduce our staffing burden.
4. Update the Scholarship Committee to consist of the regional superintendent and Executive Committee to streamline the process and further reduce our staffing burden.

Please review these proposed updates highlighted below preparation to vote on them on August 1, 2026.

**CONSTITUTION
OF THE
APPALACHIAN ADVENT CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION, INC.**

ARTICLE I Name

The name of this body shall be the Appalachian Advent Christian Association which is the fifth regional unit of the Advent Christian General Conference of America.

ARTICLE II Purpose

The purpose of this body shall be:

Section 1:

To advance the interest of and unify the Advent Christian people in the various branches of the work in the Appalachian Region.

Section 2:

To provide an adequate system of finances for the region.

Section 3:

To cooperate in an advisory way for the orderly care of the churches; assisting them in securing competent pastors, and pastors and evangelist in securing suitable fields of labor.

Section 4:

To gather denominational reports and statistics.

Section 5:

To seek to carry out the mandates of the parent organization, the Advent Christian General Conference of America, Inc.

ARTICLE III Territory

The territory of this association shall consist of the following states:

District of Columbia
Maryland
Virginia

Kentucky
Piedmont, North Carolina
West Virginia

ARTICLE IV Membership

The membership of the Association shall consist of the following:

Section 1: Conferences

Cumberland Valley

Virginia

Piedmont

West Virginia

Pocahontas

Section 2: Cooperating Societies

The cooperating society of the Association shall be the Appalachian Region Women's Home and Foreign Mission Society. Other groups may receive a "cooperating society" status if recommended by the Regional Board of Directors and approved at a Delegate Body Meeting in compliance with ARTICLE XI of this Constitution.

Section 3: Membership Application

Any duly organized Advent Christian Conference within this territory may apply in writing and be admitted upon a two-thirds (2/3) vote of members present at any regular or special meeting of the Association.

ARTICLE V Representation

Section 1: Delegation

Each Advent Christian Conference of this region shall be entitled to one (1) delegate for each 400 members or fractional part thereof as officially reported in the last annual session of the conference.

Each Advent Christian Church in good standing in the region with 100 members or less shall be entitled to two (2) delegates. One delegate shall be the pastor. In his absence, the church may designate another member to serve in his place as a delegate. A church may have one (1) additional delegate for each additional 100 members or major fraction thereof.

Each Cooperating society shall be entitled to one (1) delegate

ARTICLE V Representation (continued)

Section 2: Voting Privilege

Each qualified delegate present shall be entitled to one (1) vote only. Each member of the Board of Directors shall be entitled to one (1) vote only.

ARTICLE VI Meetings

Section 1: Date of Delegate Body Meeting

The annual meeting of the delegate body of this association shall be held at a time and location to be determined by the association board of directors.

Section 2: Convening Authority

Special delegate body meetings may be called by the president whenever requested to do so by a majority vote of the Board of Directors.

Section 3: Notice

A preliminary notice of the annual meeting shall be issued by the secretary to each church, conference, regional cooperating society at least six months before the date fixed for said meeting. The final notice of the annual meeting and any special meeting shall be issued to the same entities by the secretary at least 6 weeks before the date fixed for said meeting.

The fiscal year for the region shall be the calendar year.

Section 5: Board of Directors Meetings

The Board of Directors shall meet no more than one month prior to the annual delegate body meeting and if another meeting is regularly scheduled, it shall be approximately at the mid-point between annual meetings.

Section 6: Executive Committee Meetings

The Executive Committee (Officers), shall meet any time the President and a majority of the committee agree to call a meeting.

ARTICLE VII Officers, Board of Directors, Committees

Section 1: Definition

Officers: The Officers of this association shall be a President, a Vice-president, a secretary, and a Treasurer (or a combined Secretary/Treasurer). These officers cannot serve as conference presidents while holding regional office. Officer vacancies shall be filled by the Board of Directors until the next annual meeting.

Board of Directors: The Board of Directors will be composed of the Officers, the conference Presidents, the conference representatives, and the President of the Regional WHFMS, with the Regional Superintendent and the Regional representative to the Executive Council ex-officio. Conference representation must be at least one lay person unless the conference has less than five churches; only conference presidents may represent conferences of less than 5 churches).

Section 2: Election/Appointment

The President, vice-president, Secretary, Treasurer (or combined Secretary/Treasurer) shall be elected biennially by ballot. The Conference Presidents and Conference Representatives will be elected by their own conferences. The Regional Superintendent shall be employed by the Board of Directors when necessary, for an indefinite period.

Section 3: Executive Committee

The officers of the Association shall be known as the Executive Committee.

Section 4: Temporary Committees

The following committees shall be appointed by the president at the annual meeting: business, resolution, nominating, and credentials.

Section 5: Family Camp Program Committee

There shall be a Family Camp Program Committee appointed by the President. The committee shall have three members each of whom shall serve a three (3) year term. Appointments shall be made on a rotating basis to provide continuity.

Section 6: Standing Committees

The following standing committees are responsible to the Board of Directors through the Regional President. They shall inform him of all programs, notify him of their meetings and expenditures. Spending limits shall be set by the Board of Directors.

A: Regional Christian Education Committee

~~There shall be a Christian Education Committee consisting of at least five members — one member appointed by the Board of Directors who shall serve as chair and one member from each of conference having at least 5 churches elected or appointed annually by the respective conference and ratified by the delegate body of the Association at its annual meeting. This committee shall coordinate and be responsible for the supervision of all Christian Education on the regional level and shall interact with the Christian Education Committees in each conference seeking their cooperation and participation, advising them and promoting Christian Education in the local conference.~~

B A: Regional Youth Committee

There shall be a Regional Youth Committee consisting of at least five members – one member appointed by the Board of Directors who shall serve as chair and one member from each conference having at least 5 churches elected or appointed annually by the respective conference and ratified by the delegate body of the Association at its annual meeting. This committee shall coordinate and be responsible for the supervision of all youth work on the regional level and shall interact with the Committees on Youth Work in each conference seeking their cooperation and participation, advising them and promoting youth work in the local conference.

E B: Campground Management Committee

There shall be a Campground Management Committee consisting of up to six (6) members, including the chair, appointed by the Board of Directors. Two (2) members shall be appointed each year to two (2) year staggered terms. The chairman will be selected by the Board of Directors. This committee shall be responsible for business management, program development, site development, and lease and contract management of the regional campground. Elected and hired members will be Regional President, Regional Superintendent, Regional Treasurer, and Camp Manager, with the Regional Treasurer being a non-voting member.

D C: Scholarship Committee

~~There shall be a Scholarship Committee consisting of three (3) members, including the chair, appointed by the Board of Directors. Members shall be appointed for up to a three-year term, the regional superintendent and Executive Committee.~~ This committee shall recommend to the Board of Directors individuals who are full time college students preparing for a career in Christian service and who have met the required criteria to receive financial assistance from the Regional Scholarship Fund.

ARTICLE VIII Duties of the Officers

Section 1: President

The duties of the President shall be those usually pertaining to such office. He shall preside at all business meetings of this association and the Board of Directors and shall be a member ex-officio of all committees and otherwise guide the activities of the Association.

Section 2: Regional Superintendent

The Regional Superintendent shall have general oversight and direction of all the work of the Appalachian Advent Christian Association and serve as ex-officio (without vote) member of the Board of Directors and all committees of this organization.

Section 3: Counselling

The Regional Superintendent, and the Regional President, when requested, shall also counsel churches and pastors.

Section 4: Other Officers

The duties of the Vice-president, the Secretary, and the Treasurer, shall be those pertaining to such office.

Section 5: Board of Directors - Trust

The Board of Directors shall hold in escrow for the Association any and all real property which may be delegated to them. Power to lease, mortgage or sell, may be vested in them at the direction of the delegate body. The Board of Directors also has the authority to promulgate policy, rules and regulations concerning the use of all properties, both real and personal, owned by the corporation.

Section 6: Board of Directors – Business

The Board of Directors shall be empowered to transact all necessary business for this association between sessions.

It shall also act in the capacity of a home mission board to cooperate with the various conferences in their home mission evangelistic undertaking, seeking to coordinate the home mission program throughout the region and be empowered to raise funds, secure evangelists and disseminate literature as seems best.

It shall also act as a publication board for the editing and publishing all desirable literature needed in the promotion of the work of the region.

It shall also appoint the Family Camp director(s) who will staff and run the Family Camp program.

ARTICLE IX Appeals

Local churches experiencing difficulties that need settlement should first appeal to their local conference; but afterwards may, if necessary, appeal to the Board of Directors. Conferences may appeal directly to the Board of Directors. In case their decision is unsatisfactory, it may be appealed to the Court of Appeals of the General Conference of America whose decision will be final

ARTICLE X Cooperating Societies

Section 1: Recognized Organizations

The Appalachian Region Women's home and Foreign Mission Society shall be recognized as a cooperating society of this association.

Section 2: Reporting

Each cooperating society shall file an annual written report with the secretary of this Association.

ARTICLE XI Amendments

This constitution may be altered, changed, or amended at any regular or special meeting by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of members present provided notice of such amendment or change is mailed to each conference, church, cooperating society and committees at least three months preceding the proposed meeting.

ARTICLE XII Quorum

Twenty-five (25) delegates from at least three (3) member conferences will be necessary as a quorum for transaction of business, but a lesser number may adjourn.

Nine (9) members of the Board of Directors shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of regional business; a lesser number may adjourn.