



January 14, 2025

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

SUBJECT: Minutes from NGCUMM Executive Committee Meeting (January 2025)

1. **PURPOSE:** The purpose of this memorandum is to record the minutes from the North Georgia Conference United Methodist Men Executive Committee's meeting, which convened on January 14, 2025.

2. **WELCOME, CALL TO ORDER, DEVOTION, AND OPENING PRAYER:**

The meeting of the Executive Committee of the North Georgia Conference United Methodist Men met for its Jan. 2025 meeting on January 14, 2025, via ZOOM. **President Ernest Perry called the meeting to order** at 7:10PM. Brother Perry wished a "Happy New Year" to all and noted the absence of the Secretary, James Washington III. He then turned the floor over to Tom Morton for him to lead the devotion and prayer. Tom brought us to the LORD and His "Good Book" to discuss the "Season of Epiphany", from Jan.6th until the Tuesday before Advent. Brother Perry called for prayer requests. Ernest mentioned Tom's wife Linda for uplift through prayer as she goes through rehab. The victims of the California fires were mentioned as were Louis Johnson (pneumonia) and his sister-in-law, Nikki Merrimand (lung cancer). James Washington, Jr. (blood clots in legs) was also included for uplift. Brother Morton led us in prayer.

3. **ROLL CALL:** The next order of business was the Roll Call of attendees. The following individuals were in attendance:

ERNEST PERRY BEN GREEN CHRIS KARABINOS

TOM MORTON JOHN HOLLEY HOWARD EVANS

4. **REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** At this time, **President Perry** asked for consideration for the approval of the proposed agenda for the meeting. J. Holley moved that the agenda be approved. Tom M. seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous for the adoption of the agenda.

Minutes from NGCUMM Executive Committee Meeting

14 January 2025

Page Two

5. REVIEW OF THE NOVEMBER 08, 2024, MEETING MINUTES: Next, President Ernest displayed the minutes from the 12 November 2024 meeting for the benefit of the Body. James W. III provided the minutes to Ernest P. who in turn distributed the minutes to the Committee Members via email. J. Holley moved that the minutes be approved. T. Morton seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous for the approval of the minutes.

6. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF SPECIAL GUESTS OR VISITORS: President Ernest asked for special guest or visitors. None present

7. TREASURER'S REPORT: President Ernest called upon John Holley who then shared the financial report. The information reported is from 27 November 2025 to 08 January 2025. There were three disbursements: \$759.48, \$17.00, and \$17.00 and three deposits of: \$0.04, \$0.04, and \$145.00.

Current balances as of 10 January 2025 are reflected below:

(1) Savings Account	Current Balance: \$7,515.06*
(2) Checking Account	Current Balance: \$1,069.34
(3) Money Market Savings	Current Balance: \$4,658.04

*Certificate of Deposit- Matured and rolled over into regular share account.

TOTAL

Current Balance: \$13,242.44

There was discussion as to the particulars of renewing the CD. Tom M. made a motion to renew the CD which was seconded by John H. Chris K. mentioned that we should make sure to get the best rate with consideration for the term to maturity. John H. will conduct some financial diligence and report back to the body via email, at which point a vote will be conducted.

8. PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

a. Charter Member Update & Activities: The President has been reaching out to charters and will be sending out a second statement regarding the 2025 invoicing. The conference charters increased from 78 to 83 at the end of the year. As of 12/31/24 there were three local charters which paid their dues: Bethel UMC, Covington First UMC, and Hoosier UMC.

b. Charter Visitations: The President was scheduled to visit First Malieu but was unable to due to the snowstorm and sickness. Central is on the schedule for visitation as well.

Minutes from NGCUMM Executive Committee Meeting

14 January 2025

Page Three

c. **Update on Financial Protocols & Improprieties:** The President brought to the attention of the body that he'd been requested to disburse a check to an individual with no business or affiliation to the UMM. This is tantamount to "money laundering" and we will not be a party to such activity. He did discuss the request with the bishop. Said activity has a ten-year history and approximately \$30,000.

d. **SEJ Presidents Training & Business Meeting in March:** Presidents as well as Prayer Advocates will be asked to attend. Brother Perry requested that Brother Morton's travel expenses be covered by the SEJ. Mr. Ben Nelson, new to the state of Georgia, has offered his assistance and resources towards collecting dues from various charters. We're looking forward to enhanced participation and growth in 2025.

9. **OLD BUSINESS:** None

10. **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE & MINISTRY REPORTS:**

a. **Director of Missions:** No report

b. **Scouting Coordinator:** In December there was a team, Christmas lunch which was attended by 16 people. Chris did visit First Coving UMC where they are blessed with a thriving scouting program. Additionally, there is working going on regarding a breakfast to honor Eagle Scouts who go above and beyond to exhibit their faith and leadership. Bishop/Scout lunch is scheduled for September 2025. Membership in the scouting program is growing along with a scouting approved Bible Study course. The conference scouting website was hacked and has been disconnected. Brother Perry mentioned perhaps Ike could add a tab to our website for scouting along with various other tabs.

c. **Hunger Advocate:** Brother Perry shared Howard's report dated December 10th. There was quite a bit of activity encompassing Red Oak distributing collard greens and apples as well as cash donations. Some of the various recipients included: Columbia Drive UMC, Ariel Bowen UMC, Red Oak UMC, Shiloh UMC, Feeding God's People, Stockbridge, and Atlanta Food Bank. Ernest also shared various photographs depicting the Hunger Advocacy at work.

d. **Director of Disaster Response:** Ben G. shared the dates for training and stated that there are 19 charters active. There was significant work done towards organizing the email list. Ernest will share an updated list with Ben G. There was discussion of a \$250 donation. At the end of January there will be a group traveling down to Augusta and Ben anticipates participating. Driving to Atlanta for training is not optimal for participants. Participants "aging-

Minutes from NGCUMM Executive Committee Meeting

14 January 2025

Page Four

out” is an additional issue with participation. Ben explained how ERT deployment decisions are made. There was discussion about potential funds deployed to cover Ben’s travel expenses.

e. **Vice President Conference Affairs:** Jeff Fuller tendered his resignation.

f. **Prison Ministry:** Not present

g. **Director of Activities & Retreats:** Not present

h. **Prayer Advocate/Spiritual Development:** No report

i. **Director of Communications:** Not present

j. **Website & Creative Design:** Not present

11. **DISTRICT PRESIDENT REPORTS:** No report

12. **NEW BUSINESS:** None

13. **OUR NEXT NGC UMM MEETING February 11th**

14. **ANNOUNCEMENTS, QUESTIONS or CONCERNS for the GOOD of the ORDER:** Tom brought up the question of Fellowships, dues and ultimate benefits for paying such.

15. **CLOSING REMARKS:** None

16. **MOTION FOR ADJOURNMENT:** At this point, at 8:13pm, President Ernest entertained a motion for adjournment. Tom M. moved that the meeting be adjourned. Howard E. seconded the motion. The motion was carried by unanimous vote for adjournment.

17. **CLOSING PRAYER & SENDING FORTH:** With all minds and hearts clear, Ernest P. closed the meeting with prayer.

James E. Washington III

Secretary

NGC UMM