

**Missouri Mid-South Conference of the United Church Of Christ**  
**Rules for Introduction of New Business for the Conference Annual Gathering**

The goal of these rules for the introduction of new business is to allow for maximum participation by our constituency while keeping the meeting within reasonable time limits and providing for due process.

1. The Annual Gathering of the Conference conducts the business of the Conference. The Conference Council serves as the Business Committee. Between Annual Gatherings, the Conference Council conducts the business of the Conference.
2. All resolutions and other business transmitted to the Committee by April 1 shall be sent to each Conference church before May 15, for delegate information and discussion, prior to the Annual Gathering of the Conference.
3. Any church or Association may bring any other matter to the attention of the Conference Annual Gathering for action. In the case of a local church, the matter will qualify when/if it has received endorsement from the governing body of a member church within the Conference. Matters brought to the Conference Annual Gathering from an Association of the Conference may come from a duly called meeting of the Association, from an action of the Association Council, or from a duly elected committee of any Association of the Conference.. Matters of business may also be brought to the Conference Annual Gathering by the Conference Council or any of the Conference Covenanted Ministries. The request should be placed in the hands of the Conference Office by April 1. If the Conference Council or its Executive Committee (as determined by the council) deems that it is appropriate for consideration at the Conference Annual Gathering, it will be placed on the agenda and published in the Conference Annual Gathering materials. If it is deemed not appropriate to the Conference Annual Gathering, this will be reported to the Conference Annual Gathering and it will be considered by the Conference Council at its first full meeting following the Conference Annual Gathering.
4. All proposals described above, plus regular reports of the Conference Council, by any of the Covenanted Ministries, or by the officers and staff and by Affiliated Organizations of the Conference, plus any proposals presented by the Council, will be included in the call to the Conference Annual Gathering and placed on the agenda except as noted in paragraph 3.
5. In order to receive consideration, any matters not included in the call should be placed in the hands of a member of the Conference Council Executive Committee before the meeting convenes, or up until the opening of the first session of the meeting. The Executive Committee will then determine if the matter will be inserted into the agenda.
6. In the case of matters of urgency that could not have been foreseen before the appropriate time for submission, an emergency resolution should be placed in the hands of a member of the Conference Council Executive Committee for consideration by the Council as to whether it may appropriately be introduced as an emergency resolution. Such emergency resolutions must be presented before noon on the second day of the Conference Annual Gathering.
7. No new matters may be introduced after the first business session of the meeting unless there is a two-thirds vote of Conference Annual Gathering delegates to place such matters on the agenda.

Adopted June 5, 2015 at Conference Annual Gathering