GA-1528
(Operational, Policy and Organizational)
CHANGE IN REGIONAL BOUNDARIES:
GREAT RIVER AND ALABAMA/NORTHWEST FLORIDA

WHEREAS, First Christian Church, Meridian, Mississippi, is geographically closer to congregations of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the Alabama / Northwest Florida region; and

WHEREAS, The Design states:

22. Regions of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) perform within their established boundaries the function of the church related to their two-fold purpose of mission and nurture:

27. Identifiable geographic, cultural, sociological, and political factors provide boundaries, which the church may use to establish its own regional structures (1) by which the church carries out regionally its ministry of mission and nurture;
   (2) in which congregations and ministers find their primary relationships of mutual support and encouragement;
   3) which provide opportunities for regional fellowship, worship, and assembly for the consideration of matters of mutual concern;
   (4) which help to relate the three expressions of the church - congregational, regional, and general - to one another in the functioning of the whole church; and

WHEREAS, the official board and congregation of First Christian voted to affiliate with the Alabama/Northwest Florida Region; and

WHEREAS, the regions of Great River and Alabama/Northwest Florida have voted in agreement with the congregation to release and accept the congregation; and

WHEREAS, The Design also states:

29. In the development of any new regional boundaries, existing regional organizations shall remain intact, subject to modification by mutual consent of the regions involved, in the light of the corporate judgment of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) as expressed through the General Assembly. The process of reshaping regional boundaries (even if only one congregation is affected) includes the participation and approval of the parties involved, the Administrative Committee, the General Board, and the General Assembly; and
WHEREAS, this request was presented to and affirmed by the Governance Committee of the General Board at its meeting on April 12, 2015;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the regional boundaries of the Great River Region and the Alabama/Northwest Florida Region shift such that Meridian Mississippi, be included in the Alabama/Northwest Florida Region.

The Governance Committee of the General Board in consultation with First Christian Church, Meridian, Mississippi, the Great River Region and the Alabama/Northwest Florida Region

The General Board recommends that the General Assembly ADOPTS GA-1528. (Discussion time: 12 minutes)