

Constitution of the Moravian Church in America, Southern Province (2018)

Section 1. Name and Title

The name and title of this Province of the Unitas Fratrum shall be the "Moravian Church in America, Southern Province."

Section 2. The Government of the Unity

The Unity Synod of the Moravian Church is supreme in all things assigned to it by the Constitution of the Unity. In all other affairs of the Unity in the Southern Province, the Government is vested in the Provincial Synod, and in the Boards elected and authorized by the Provincial Synod.

Section 3. The Provincial Synod

The Provincial Synod has the supreme legislative power of the Province in all things not committed to the Unity Synod. It shall consist of elected delegates and official members; it shall determine the qualification of its own members; it shall prescribe what bodies shall be entitled to representation, and on what basis, and in what manner to be elected.

Section 4. Duties and Functions of the Provincial Synod

The Provincial Synod shall have power:

1. to carry out the principles of the Moravian Church (Unitas Fratrum) laid down by the Unity Synod for constitution, doctrine, worship and congregational life;
2. to examine and oversee the spiritual and temporal affairs of the Province and its congregations;
3. to legislate in regard to constitution, worship and congregational life for the Province;
4. to provide the vision, direction and expectations for Provincial mission and ministry and to review the results thereof;
5. to elect the Provincial Elders' Conference which shall constitute the administrative board of the Province and which shall be responsible to the Synod for the management of the affairs committed to it;
6. to elect representatives to inter-provincial agencies, boards and such other entities as it deems appropriate;
7. to elect Bishops;
8. to elect Delegates to Unity Synod;
9. to act as the final court of appeal to hear and redress grievances; and,
10. to perform such other acts as shall be designated to it by the Constitution and such other acts as shall be lawful under its Articles of Incorporation.

Section 5. Provincial Synods

1. The stated Provincial Synods of the Moravian Church in America, Southern Province, shall meet every four years.
2. Special Synods may be called in the interval by the Provincial Elders' Conference or upon a written request of 300 or more communicant members.

3. At least sixty days prior to the opening date of each stated Synod, the Provincial Elders' Conference shall appoint its chairperson, vice-chairperson, secretary, and parliamentarian.
4. At least sixty days prior to the opening date of each stated Synod, the Provincial Elders' Conference shall appoint a Committee on Government, and a Nominations Committee, which shall present to Synod nominations for all boards to be elected by Synod unless otherwise provided for. After presentation of the Nominating Committee's report, additional nominations may be made from the floor.
5. Each Provincial Board shall prepare a written report of its work during the inter-synodal period to be submitted to the Provincial Elders' Conference at least thirty days prior to the date of Synod. A copy of those reports shall be distributed at least two weeks in advance of the opening of Synod to all official delegates.
6. Only the report of the Provincial Elders' Conference may be read in full during the meeting of Synod.
7. The Provincial Elders' Conference shall appoint synodal committees as may be needed. Each committee shall study the state of the church in the field assigned to it, pass upon resolutions of Synod referred to it, and render a report to Synod.

Section 6. Conferences

Whenever in the judgment of the Provincial Elders' Conference a non-legislative Church Conference upon any subject is desirable, such Conference shall be called by the Provincial Elders' Conference, which shall fix the ratio of representation and time and place of meetings

Section 7. Members of Provincial Synods

The following shall be members of the Provincial Synods, provided however, that in the event one or more of the entities below shall cease to exist, then such entity shall cease to have a representative at Provincial Synods:

1. Delegates from the congregations in the Province.
2. Members of the existing Provincial Elders' Conference.
3. The Chair of the Provincial Services Support Board.
4. The Provincial Chief Financial Officer.
5. All Bishops residing in the Southern Province.
6. All ordained ministers serving under call in the Southern Province and all ordained ministers or Provincial Acolytes, who are in full charge of organized congregations in the Southern Province.
7. One representative of Salem Academy and College.
8. The President of the Provincial Women's Board.
9. The Chair of the Board of Cooperative Ministries.
10. The Executive Director of the Board of Cooperative Ministries.
11. The Executive Director of the Bd. of World Mission of the Moravian Church in America.
12. One representative of the Moravian Home (Salem towne).
13. All retired ordained ministers residing in the Southern Province or retired from the Southern Province.
14. The Archivist of the Moravian Church in America, Southern Province.
15. The President of the Mission Society of the Moravian Church, South, Inc.

16. All certified Moravian full-time professional Church Educators currently employed by congregations or provincial boards and agencies in the Southern Province.
17. The Assistant to the President of the Provincial Elders' Conference who is a member of the Moravian Church.
18. The Director of Laurel Ridge Camp, Conference and Retreat Center.
19. The Executive Director of the Interprovincial Board of Communication.
20. The Director of the Moravian Music Foundation.
21. The President and Chief Executive Officer of the Moravian Ministries Foundation in America.
22. The Director of Sunnyside Ministry of the Moravian Church.

Section 8. Representation at Synod

1. Every regularly organized congregation shall be entitled to one delegate for every one hundred twenty-five (125) adult communicant members or major fraction thereof, based on the membership list at the close of the last statistical year as determined by the Provincial Elders' Conference; provided, however, every regularly organized congregation shall be entitled to at least one delegate. Communicant members are those described in the Synod Approved Recommendations of Rules and Regulations (in an Appendix of this Book of Order). Such entitlement shall, however, be subject to the fulfillment of the following requirements:
 - a. The payment of the pastor's salary, such salary to be agreed upon by the Board of Trustees or the Church Board of the Congregation and the Provincial Elders' Conference.
 - b. The payment of its current expenses.
 - c. The payment annually of all contributions required by Synod as described in the Constitution.

Congregations that do not meet these requirements shall not be entitled to have delegates. If the Provincial Elders' Conference deems there are justifiable reasons for waiving the prohibition to representation for a particular congregation, the Provincial Elders' Conference may grant representation with voting privileges.

2. All members of a congregation who are entitled to vote in elections having reference to the affairs of their own congregations shall have the privilege of voting for delegates. A majority of the votes cast is necessary to decide the election, which is to be held by ballot.
3. In the election of delegates where nominees are presented at a Congregation Council, at least 20% of these official nominees shall be members of the official Board or Boards.
4. The delegates must be full communicant members.
5. Alternates are to be elected according to the same rule that applies to delegates.
6. The delegates and alternates must be furnished with the necessary credentials.

Section 9. Elections and Appointments

1. Members of the Provincial Elders' Conference and of other boards shall be elected at stated Synods from among the communicant membership or Moravian clergy serving under call of or appointment by the Southern Province.
2. Resolutions calling for the election of a bishop or bishops shall be referred to the appropriate Synod committee dealing with the ministry. In the event no such resolution is

presented, the appropriate committee may recommend to Synod the election of a bishop or bishops.

3. A majority vote of two-thirds of the votes cast shall be necessary for the election of bishops (by ballot without nomination) and the President of the Provincial Elders' Conference (by ballot without nomination). A majority vote of two-thirds of the votes cast shall be necessary for the election of each clergy and lay member of the Provincial Elders' Conference (by ballot with nomination).
4. All other elections shall be by a majority of the votes cast.
5. Members of the Provincial Elders' Conference (with the exception of the President, who shall not be subject to term limits) and members of the various boards elected by synod, shall serve for one term of four years after which they may be eligible for re-election to a second term of four years, subject to a reasonable rotation of membership established by the board. After serving two consecutive full terms, they may be eligible again for election after an interval of four years.
6. Any board may designate among the members it is authorized to appoint a position or positions to which members may be appointed for less than a four-year term, provided no such member serves more than eight consecutive years.
7. In the event of a vacancy on a board, or a member fails to be re-appointed or re-elected, the one appointed or elected to fill the vacancy shall serve the unexpired portion of the term of the person being replaced. The new member's eligibility to a succeeding four-year term shall be determined by the remaining eligibility of the person being replaced. Members who serve less than four years of the second term of the person replaced shall be eligible for election or appointment to two terms in their own right.
8. Vacancies occurring on boards to which synod elects members shall be filled as follows:
 - a. Vacancies occurring on interprovincial and interdenominational boards of members elected by the Synod of the Southern Province shall be filled by the Provincial Elders' Conference.
 - b. Vacancies occurring among the members of any board other than specified in Paragraph 7 above shall be filled by the remaining members of the elected board.
 - c. A member of any board may be removed for cause, such as failure to attend meetings or enter into the work of the board. Such removal shall be by 2/3 vote of the affected board.
9. In the event the office of the President of the Provincial Elders' Conference becomes vacant between Synods, the Conference may appoint a person to bring the Conference to full membership. The Conference may then choose one of its members President. If a member of the conference other than the new appointee becomes its president, the new appointee's eligibility for election to a succeeding four-year term shall be determined by the remaining eligibility of the person elected president. The order of rotation shall be preserved in the terms of the members of the Conference other than that of president.
10. Individual boards and agencies of the Province as constituted as of the date of synod are authorized to determine the best date on which their newly elected members shall take office. The date selected shall not be later than the first day of the second month following their election.

Section 10. Provincial Elders' Conference

1. The Provincial Elders' Conference shall provide priority-based leadership of all church ministries and administer the polity of the province.
2. The Provincial Elders' Conference shall consist of seven persons to be elected by Synod: a President who may be a layperson or clergy, three (3) laypersons and three (3) clergy.
3. The Synod shall elect the President of the Conference, after which the remaining six (6) members shall be chosen in accordance with the Constitution.
4. The term of office of the President of the Provincial Elders' Conference shall be from the first day of the second month following the adjournment of Synod until a successor is seated. All other members shall take office upon election. The outgoing President of the Provincial Elders' Conference shall be continued on salary and housing allowance for a period of two months after the end of Synod to permit an orderly transfer of authority to the incoming President.
5. It shall be the duty of the Provincial Elders' Conference to:
 - a. See that the enactments of Synod are carried out, including implementation of strategic directives of Synod and setting plans and priorities for the Board of Cooperative Ministries.
 - b. Oversee candidacy and clergy development.
 - c. Approve ordination of Deacons and consecration of Presbyters.
 - d. Administer the call process and appointment procedures including calling and superintending the ministers of the Province.
 - e. Set and monitor guidelines for compensation and benefits of clergy.
 - f. Supervise the congregations of the Province, encouraging them in their work and service and hold Quadrennial Reviews with each congregation.
 - g. Determine the formation and structure of the Regional Conferences of Churches.
 - h. Provide Conflict Management support as needed.
 - i. Make necessary appointments to boards, commissions, and task forces.
 - j. Supervise and manage the day-to-day operations of the Province.
 - k. Oversee Board of Cooperative Ministries (BCM), and Provincial Support Services Board (PSSB), and the Archives, including the appointment of professional staff.
 - l. Oversee Unity and ecumenical relationships.
 - m. Oversee planning and preparation for Synod, including: fixing the date and place of the meeting of Synod, calling special Synods, acting as the standing committee of credentials at all Synods, and appointing the officers, committees and committee chairpersons prior to the convening of Synod.
 - n. Oversee new church development and pass upon the admission of new congregations.
 - o. Approve the Provincial Budget.
 - p. Allocate available financial resources of the province based on Synod priorities.
 - q. Act on requests from congregations for relief from provincial share allocations.
 - r. Act on requests from congregations to obtain loans for buildings, property, renovations and equipment.
 - s. Upon review by the Provincial Support Services Board, act on requests for any fund raising solicitation of the congregations or their members by other congregations, boards, agencies or individuals.

- t. Exercise joint responsibility, with the Provincial Elders' Conference of the Moravian Church in America, Northern Province, as members of the corporation of the Moravian Ministries Foundation in America.
 - u. Manage, report and communicate progress and successes from Synod directives.
 - v. Communicate with the Bishops' Conference.
6. It shall be the duty of the President of the Provincial Elders' Conference:
- a. To preside at meetings of the Conference and to carry out the directives of the Conference.
 - b. To be knowledgeable about the talents and capabilities of the ministers and students preparing for the ministry in order to recommend to the Conference the best use of ministerial personnel.
 - c. To be knowledgeable about the needs and opportunities for growth and service of the congregations, and to assist them in achieving maximum results.
 - d. To represent the province or to provide for representation at the meeting of ecumenical bodies of which the province is a member.
 - e. To represent the province on the Unity Board.
 - f. To appoint provincial committees as needed with the approval of the Conference.
 - g. To lead the Conference in establishing and achieving its goals and priorities.

Section 11. Board of Cooperative Ministries

1. The Board of Cooperative Ministries shall provide support to congregations and Regional Conferences of Churches groupings to develop and maintain a high level of health and growth.
2. The Board of Cooperative Ministries shall be composed of one (1) member appointed by each Regional Conference of Churches, an equal number of members appointed by the Provincial Elders' Conference, and the President of the Provincial Elders' Conference, ex officio. The Chair of the Board shall be elected from among the appointed members.
3. It shall be the duty of the Board of Cooperative Ministries to:
 - a. Oversee the development and implementation of specific plans set by the PEC for ministry and direction.
 - b. Recommend to the PEC staffing needs for the Board of Cooperative Ministries, including staffing structure, as well as professional staff for call and appointment.
 - c. Recommend to the PEC special commissions, committees and task forces (including recommendations for appointment).
 - d. Measure and report to the PEC effectiveness and results of plan implementation and action.
 - e. Promote, facilitate and assist as needed in the identification and use of gifts of ministry at the congregational level.
 - f. To maintain a high level of effectiveness of the staff charged with assisting congregations, RCC groups, and leaders in general within the province seeking to foster congregation health and growth.

Section 12. Provincial Support Services

1. The Provincial Support Services shall provide ancillary services (Financial, Human Resources, Archival, and Risk Management) to all organizational levels of the province.
2. The Provincial Support Services Board shall be composed of two (2) members of the Board of Cooperative Ministries, three (3) at-large appointments by the Provincial Elders' Conference, one of which shall be an ordained pastor serving a congregation of the Southern Province, the President of the Provincial Elders' Conference, ex officio, and one (1) additional members of the Provincial Elders' Conference.
3. The Board shall elect one of its members as Chair.
4. It shall be the duty of the Provincial Support Services Board to:
 - a. Oversee the coordination of support for ancillary services to all organizational levels of the Province.
 - b. Recommend to the PEC staffing needs for the Provincial Support Services Board, including staffing structure, as well as professional staff for call and appointment.
 - c. Provide analytical support for measuring results.
 - d. Monitor the financial health for the Province providing information to the Provincial Elders' Conference and the Board of Cooperative Ministries.
 - e. Assess financial health of churches and cooperative ministries.
 - f. Evaluate and recommend action on financial forgiveness requests from churches.
 - g. Review requests from congregations to obtain loans for buildings, property, renovations, and equipment and make recommendations to the Provincial Elders' Conference.
 - h. Review requests for any fund raising solicitation of the congregations or their members by other congregations, boards, agencies or individuals, and make recommendations to the Provincial Elders' Conference.
 - i. Assist the Provincial Elders' Conference in the preparation of the provincial budget and allocation of financial resources to cooperative ministries based on realistic church share expectations.
 - j. Monitor compliance and address issues regarding human resources, financial audits, operating risks and legal risk.
 - k. Provide oversight to the benefit plans.
 - l. Provide and maintain a Provincial hazard insurance group policy for all church properties.
5. The Board shall have oversight of the following:
 - a. Treasurer's Office
 - i. The Treasurer's Office shall provide financial services and support to all organizational levels of the Province.
 - ii. It shall be the duty of the Treasurer's Office to:
 1. Provide financial services to provincial entities of the Moravian Church, Southern Province.
 2. Be a resource for churches for all accounting matters.
 3. Assist churches in the preparation of requests for financial forgiveness.
 4. Assist the Provincial Support Services Board as needed in tracking support for measuring results of provincial goals.

5. Support the financial monitoring request from the Provincial Support Services Board for the Moravian Church, Southern Province.
 6. Serve as liaison for the Moravian Church, Southern Province, with contract services.
- b. Human Resources
- i. Human Resources shall provide human resource services and support to all organizational levels of the province.
 - ii. It shall be the duty of Human Resources to:
 1. Ensure compliance with all human resource regulatory requirements.
 2. Be a resource for churches and the Province for all human resource matters.

Section 13. Congregations

1. A congregation is a Christian community in which individuals can respond to the love of God in Jesus Christ by growing in their love of God, in their discipleship as followers of Jesus Christ, and in their love, and service toward others.
2. It shall be the duty of a congregation to:
 - a. Develop within its life the characteristics of a healthy congregation, implement the strategies determined by Synod, and meet the resulting goals and objectives developed by the PEC.
 - b. Actively participate with other Moravians provincially and in the Regional Conferences of Churches.
 - c. Pastors and representatives to the Regional Conference of Churches have the responsibility of fostering the active involvement of their members in the life of the Province and of the Regional Conference.
 - d. Actively serve in the community and with the wider church.
 - e. Seek to fulfill its purpose, role and responsibilities by supporting the efforts of pastors and lay leaders.
 - f. Members of congregations are called to participate actively in opportunities for worship, study and service in the congregation, region and Province supporting the ministry of the church through providing time, talent and treasure.

Section 14. Provincial Contributions

1. Each congregation's share of the Provincial Budget shall be determined by a methodology set forth in a Synod-approved policy and implemented by the Provincial Support Services Board at the direction of the Provincial Elders' Conference.
2. Every congregation is required to contribute through its annual budget an amount agreed upon between the congregation and the Provincial Elders' Conference to the following causes:
 - a. World Missions, to be administered by the Board of World Mission of the Moravian Church in America.
 - b. The education of candidates for the ministry in the Moravian College and Theological Seminary.
 - c. Provincial Self-Support, to cover the general administrative expenses of the province.

- d. The Clergy Pension Fund of the Southern Province of the Moravian Church.
 - e. Laurel Ridge Moravian Camp and Conference Center.
 - f. The Moravian.
 - g. Salem Academy and College for the Department of Religion.
 - h. Unity and Inter-Denominational Causes.
 - i. Archives.
 - j. Moravian Music Foundation.
 - k. Music Festival and Commission on Music and Worship.
 - l. Retiree's Medical Insurance Plan.
 - m. Provincial Elders' Conference, Board of Cooperative Ministries, Provincial Support Services, Regional Conferences of Churches, Congregations and such other ministry as the Provincial Elders' Conference shall from time to time determine.
3. Every congregation is requested to contribute through its annual budget an amount agreed upon between the congregation and the Provincial Elders' Conference to the National Council of Churches and World Council of Churches.
 4. The Provincial Elders' Conference shall determine those congregations that are delinquent at the end of each fiscal year.
 5. In any case where a church board takes exception to the amount of contribution or contributions requested of it by the PEC, it shall be the duty of the Church Board, prior to the adoption of its budget, to request consultation with the PEC for the express purpose of reaching an agreement on the amount of the contribution.

Section 15. Congregation Finances

1. The Board of Trustees or Church Board of each congregation shall prepare prior to the beginning of each calendar year, a budget of income and expenses for the guidance of the financial affairs of the congregation. A copy of this budget shall be filed with the Treasurer of the Province on or before December 15 preceding the beginning of such year.
2. The Board shall appoint a committee of auditors from the membership of the congregation or an auditor outside the membership to examine in detail the accounts of the Treasurer at the end of each calendar year and make a report to the Board.
3. At the close of each calendar year, the Treasurer of the congregation shall submit a full report of all financial transactions to the Church membership.
4. A copy of the annual report of the Treasurer of the congregation and a Certificate of the Audit shall be filed with the Treasurer of the Province by May 15 following the close of each year.
5. In the event the Budget or Financial Report or Audit Certificate is not filed by the appointed date, the Provincial PEC shall have the authority to require the Chairperson of the Joint Board of the Church to call a meeting of the Joint Board, or if necessary, a Church Council to effect compliance immediately.
6. All church treasurers or other financial officers of congregations shall be covered by a position-type fidelity bond, with limits recommended by the Provincial Support Services Board, the cost of which shall be borne by the individual congregations.

7. Each congregation shall maintain broad hazard insurance coverage for its properties, either through participation in a Provincial group policy or through a separate policy secured by the congregation and approved by the Provincial Support Services Board.
8. A self-supporting congregation is one that provides, either from the contributions of its membership and adherents or from the income of its own funds, without any fixed or regular aid from provincial funds, an adequate salary for its pastor and the means for the defrayal of all other expenses of its church establishment, besides meeting its obligations to the regular causes of the church.

Section 16. Fellowships

Fellowships may be organized by Moravians or former Moravians (communicant members of existing Moravian or other Christian churches) in places where no Moravian Church exists to provide spiritual enrichment for their members and to offer opportunities to enjoy practices unique to the Moravian experience. Fellowships follow guidelines established by the Provincial Elders' Conference and are not required to grow into and become established congregations.

Section 17. Regional Conferences of Churches

1. The Regional Conferences of Churches shall enable communication, build unity and expand community throughout the Moravian Church, Southern Province in order to contribute to the growth of healthy congregations.
2. It shall be the duty of Regional Conferences of Churches to:
 - a. Facilitate better communication within the Province and among congregations.
 - b. Serve as a resource for input to the BCM on local congregation's needs and perspectives in order to enable the BCM to provide practical and professional help.
 - c. Promote ownership, interaction and participation in shared ministries as defined by Synod priorities and direction.
 - d. Promote sharing of strengths, gifts, assets and best practices of each congregation.
 - e. Identify and facilitate connection for initiatives arising across the Conference's churches. Identify and recommend candidates for provincial appointments and assist in their recruitment.

Section 18. Florida District

1. For the purposes of cooperation and communication the Moravian Churches and Fellowships in Florida are designated as the Florida District of the Moravian Church, Southern Province, to be administered under by laws approved by the Provincial Elders' Conference.
2. The Florida District Board shall be directly responsible to the Provincial Elders' Conference and take no action inconsistent with its policies or the enactments of Provincial Synods.

Section 19. Board of Trustees of Salem Academy and College

1. The Board of Trustees of Salem Academy and College shall consist of thirty members, of which five members shall be elected by the Provincial Synod of the Southern Province and five members shall be appointed by the Provincial Elders' Conference of the

Southern Province in consultation with the Salem Academy and College Board of Trustees.

2. The five trustees elected by the Provincial Synod shall be elected for terms of four years each. The terms of other members of the Board of Trustees, including those appointed by the Provincial Elders' Conference, shall be rotated in such a manner as to result in, as much as possible, an equal number of expiring terms each year.
3. In order to insure that the ongoing needs of Salem Academy and College and its Board of Trustees are addressed, the nominees to the Salem Academy and College Board of Trustees presented to each Synod by the Synod Committee on Nominations shall be reviewed and approved prior to Synod by the Salem Academy and College Board of Trustees. This shall in no way preclude the possibility of additional nominations from the floor of Synod.
4. It shall be the duty of the Board of Trustees to adopt by-laws, elect officers, and generally to direct the business and affairs of the Institution.
5. It shall be the duty of the Board of Trustees to submit to each stated Synod of the province, through its representative, a report on the general condition of the Institution.
6. Articles of Incorporation for Salem Academy and College are on file in the office of the Provincial Elders' Conference.

Section 20. Board of World Mission of the Moravian Church

1. The Synod of the Southern Province shall elect two directors of the Board of World Mission of the Moravian Church. The Provincial Elders' Conference shall appoint one of its members as a director of the Board of World Mission of the Moravian Church. The Board of Directors of the Mission Society of the Moravian Church, South, Inc. shall appoint one of its members as a director of the Board of World Mission of the Moravian Church.
2. The Board of World Mission of the Moravian Church administers the mission work of the two provinces of the Moravian Church in America. It is incorporated under the laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and operates under its own Constitution and By-Laws approved by the Synods of the Northern and Southern Provinces.
3. Articles of Incorporation for the Board of World Mission are on file in the office of the Provincial Elders' Conference.

Section 21. The Board of Directors of the Mission Society of the Moravian Church, South, Inc.

1. The Board of Directors of the Mission Society of the Moravian Church, South, Inc., shall be composed of the two elected directors of the Board of World Mission of the Moravian Church in America and twelve directors elected by the Synod from among the membership of the Society.
2. The Mission Society of the Moravian Church, South, Inc., is incorporated under the laws of the State of North Carolina. As the auxiliary provincial mission society it is responsible for the promotion in the Southern Province of interest in and support of foreign missions. It shall administer the invested funds entrusted to its control, and the surplus of its income shall be turned over to the Board of World Mission of the Moravian Church in America.

3. The Charter of the Mission Society of the Moravian Church, South is on file in the office of the Provincial Elders' Conference.

Section 22. The Provincial Women's Board

1. The Provincial Women's Board shall consist of ten members elected by Synod.
2. The Provincial Women's Board shall have the right to elect for a term of four years subject to re-election for a second term of four years, six persons to serve on the Board with all the rights and privileges enjoyed by members elected by Synod, provided the rules governing rotation in office as given in this Constitution are followed.
3. The seventeenth member of the board will be a female clergy member appointed by the board to serve a two-year term with the option to be re-appointed for another two-year term.
4. It shall be the duty of this Board:
 - a. To promote the acquaintance and fellowship of the women of the Province and seek to encourage their growth in Christian character and service.
 - b. To formulate and present a program for the united effort of the Women's Fellowships of the congregations and to enlist their cooperation in carrying it out.
 - c. To lend its assistance to the Provincial Elders' Conference or other boards of the province, whenever called upon, towards the accomplishment of the work assigned to them.
 - d. To further the cause of Christ and the Kingdom among the women of our Southern Province.
5. This Board shall render a report to each stated Synod.
6. The Provincial Women's Board shall appoint four representatives to serve on the Inter-Provincial Women's Board of the Moravian Church in America, which Board is hereby recognized as such, and to which the Northern Provincial Women's Board sends an equal number of representatives. The functions of the Inter-Provincial Board are stated in its own Rules and Regulations, which have been ratified by both the Northern and Southern Provincial Women's Boards.

Section 23. The Board of Trustees of Moravian Theological Seminary

1. The Synod of the Southern Province shall elect two members of the Board of Trustees of Moravian Theological Seminary for a term of four years, subject to re-election for a second term of four years.
2. Any vacancy occurring among the two members shall be filled by the Provincial Elders' Conference until the next stated Synod.

Section 24. The Board of Directors of Salemtowne (Moravian Home, Incorporated)

1. The Board of Directors of Salemtowne shall be composed of no more than eighteen members, of whom four members shall be elected by the Provincial Synod of the Southern Province, and six members shall be appointed by the Provincial Elders' Conference.
2. The four directors elected by the Provincial Synod and the six appointed by the Provincial Elders' Conference, shall serve for terms of four years each. All other members shall be selected by the Board of Directors to serve four-year terms and shall be

rotated in such a manner as to result in, as much as possible, an equal number of expiring terms each year.

3. The Board shall elect its own Chairman and other officers.
4. Salemtowne is incorporated under the laws of the State of North Carolina as a non-profit corporation for the purpose of erecting, maintaining, and operating a continuing care retirement community.
5. The Board of Directors shall appoint a President who shall be responsible for the care of the residents and for the administration of the retirement community in all its departments. If the President is an ordained minister of the Moravian Church, he/she shall serve under call of the Provincial Elders' Conference.
6. The Board of Directors shall submit to each stated synod a report of its operations and financial condition.
7. The Articles of Incorporation for the Moravian Home, Incorporated (dba Salemtowne) are on file in the office of the Provincial Elders' Conference.

Section 25. Other Boards and Commissions

The following entities, while not separately incorporated, determine their own By Laws and operate under the oversight of a Board with members elected by the Provincial Synod, or under a Board the members of which are appointed by a Board elected by the Provincial Synod:

1. The Archives Commission, overseen by the Provincial Elders' Conference. The Archives are jointly owned, and funded in equal shares by the Moravian Church in America, Southern Province, and Salem Congregation.
2. The Board of Directors of Laurel Ridge Moravian Camp and Conference Center, overseen by the Provincial Elders' Conference.
3. The Sunnyside Ministry Program Board, overseen by the Board of Cooperative Ministries.

Section 26. Amendments

Any proposed changes in this Constitution shall be submitted to a Provincial Synod, and then referred to the Committee on Government, and when reported back by the said committee, may be adopted by a majority of two-thirds of the votes cast by Synod.