

CONSENT CALENDAR AR 03

2015 OREGON-IDAHO ANNUAL CONFERENCE

1 TITLE: CONFERENCE PULPIT EXCHANGE SUNDAY
2 SPONSORING GROUP OR INDIVIDUAL: Mark Bateman
3 SPOKESPERSON: Mark Bateman
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8 **LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY RECOMMENDATIONS: AMEND, IN YELLOW; YES 22, NO 2,**
9 **ABSTAIN 0**

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12 **I/We petition the Oregon-Idaho Annual conference to take the following action:**

13 The Annual Conference will add to the list of Annual Conference Special Sundays (without offering) a
14 Pulpit Exchange Sunday. Pulpit Exchange Sunday will be **the second Sunday in February next to the**
15 **last Sunday after Epiphany** each year as "Pulpit Exchange Sunday." On this Sunday, each local
16 church is encouraged to arrange for its pastor to preach at a different congregation and another
17 church's pastor to preach at its service(s). In addition, as is possible, pastors should not simply trade
18 pulpits and should not go to the same church each year for this Sunday.

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SUPPORTING INFORMATION

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22 **What will this action accomplish?**

23 Pulpit Exchange Sunday will increase the number of clergy with whom church members have contact and
24 expose churches to different styles of preaching and worship leadership. It will increase the webs of contact
25 within our connection, revitalizing the connectional aspect of our polity in the Oregon-Idaho Conference.

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27 **Why is it important?**

28 Our local churches do not exist in isolation, but as part of the "the connection"-a network of United Methodist
29 congregations, though we don't always think or act in those terms. Being more intentional about maintaining
30 and acting within the network and exposing ourselves and our churches to other aspects of the connection can
31 strengthen these ties.

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33 **How will it be carried out? By whom?**

34 This is a voluntary activity carried out on a by each individual clergy person and congregation.

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36 **How much will it cost? Where will the money come from?**

37 The cost to the Annual Conference will be nominal, only printing the resolution in the Journal and potentially
38 on conference calendars as a reminder of the Sunday.

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