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*Agency:* GCOM

*Title:* Report of the Cooperative Parish Ministries Committee

*Financial Implications:* None

**Report No. 17**

Petition Number:

**REPORT OF THE COOPERATIVE PARISH MINISTRIES COMMITTEE**

**Mandate**

The 2000 General Conference approved Calendar Item 1424 recommending a common table event be held in the 2001-2004 quadrennium to determine the needed direction to continue coordination of ecumenical/interdenominational, cooperative/shared ministries. The General Board of Global Ministries, the General Board of Discipleship and the General Commission on Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns work cooperatively with the National Cooperative Parish Ministries Leadership Team in developing, promoting, and providing resources for these important ministries of the church.

**Process and Implementation**

Within its internal structure in the 2001-2004 quadrennium, the General Council on Ministries (GCOM) established the Cooperative Parish Ministries Committee to care for this assignment.

The Cooperative Parish Ministries Committee met during the time of each GCOM meeting. Its main agenda was to determine the most effective and efficient way to fulfill the mandate for a common table event as approved by General Conference.

Representatives of the GCOM Cooperative Parish Ministries Committee also attended meetings of the National Cooperative Parish Ministry Leadership Team and were in dialogue with the Team. In order to fulfill the mandate assigned in the most effective and efficient manner possible, discussions were held with the National Cooperative Parish Ministry Leadership Team regarding the possibility of holding this common table event during the Sixth Consultation on Cooperative Parish Ministries to be held in St. Louis, Missouri, on November 13-16, 2003, rather than as a stand-alone event.

The National Cooperative Parish Ministry Leadership Team was open to this concept and designed agenda time within the Sixth Consultation event held in 2003 for GCOM to accomplish the objectives set forth in the General Conference mandate. Several time slots were allotted during the Consultation for GCOM to be in dialogue with Consultation attendees.

GCOM will share insights gleaned from the consultation with the National Cooperative Parish Ministry Leadership Team to assist them in their ongoing work.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
Bishop Edward W. Paup, President

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
Daniel K. Church, General Secretary