

THE CENTRAL PENNSYLVANIA CONFERENCE SINCE UNION

A DOCUMENTED TABLE

The Methodist Church and the Evangelical United Brethren Church united in Dallas, Texas, on April 23, 1968, to form the United Methodist Church. The Central Pennsylvania Conference of the United Methodist Church came into existence at exactly 10:30 am, October 18, 1969, at the Uniting Session held in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. As authorized by the Northeast Jurisdictional Conference held in Buckhannon, West Virginia, on July 24-28, 1968, the effective date of union on all matters of administration was set for January 1, 1970.

The Central Pennsylvania Conference was formed in accordance with The Plan and Basis of Union, hereafter called TPABOU, approved April 7, 1969. The district/charge structures and church membership figures of the table are those given in TPABOU. Having to present some fixed starting point and structure, this article has chosen that of TPABOU because it is well-defined and does indeed represent the origins of the present conference. Since there were continual modifications to the original plan right up to the time of final implementation, however, some charges never actually existed in the form envisioned in the following table.

The information given for each church includes (1) its membership, (2) its historic denominational and conference affiliation, and (3) every conference journal reference since TPABOU relating to its closing, selling, merging, relocating or realignment. The membership figures are those as of January 1, 1968, as taken from TPABOU (with corrections). The historical denominational affiliations are represented by EV (Evangelical), ME (Methodist Episcopal), MES (Methodist Episcopal South), MP (Methodist Protestant) and UB (United Brethren). Former conferences are represented by AL (Allegheny), B or BA (Baltimore), CN (Central New York), CP (Central Pennsylvania), EP (Eastern Pennsylvania), ER (Erie), GE (Genesee), MD (Maryland), PA (Pennsylvania), PH (Philadelphia), PI (Pittsburgh) and WA (Washington). The journal references allow the reader to follow the development of the conference from that given in TPABOU to its present form.

UPDATE NOTE: The Table printed in 1991 was the then current form of an ongoing record. In 2000 that record was ended and a new one begun. What follows is the updated table completed in the year 2000.