Resolution on HIV of the Methodist Church of Southern Africa National Conference Aug. – Sept. 2005

HIV/AIDS

Conference resolved:

To adopt the manual *The Church in an HIV+ World* as a resource book and that each minister and at least one lay person in each Society have a copy of the manual.

That every District runs a Workshop to be attended by every minister and at least one lay person from each Circuit, in which the manual is explained and utilized as a resource by June 2006.

That each District and Circuit will have established a multi-disciplinary HIV/AIDS Action Group including leaders of each Department and Organization of the Church and shall have established an HIV/AIDS programme by the end of 2006.

That the Presiding Bishop becomes the champion for the Church’s response to HIV/AIDS within the MCSA.

That HIV/AIDS becomes part of the agenda for every Leaders Meeting, Quarterly Meeting, Synod and Conference.

That the Strategy and Implementation Plan of the MCSA will be made available to all Circuits.

Conference resolves that a special Fund for the HIV/AIDS programme of the MCSA be established and that an amount be allocated from the Mission Fund, the Millenial Fund and the Cash Management Scheme.

Circuit and Societies are asked to allocate a portion of their funds and to do fundraising for the HIV/AIDS ministry.

Churches are urged to form partnerships with other Faith Based Organizations, (FBO’s), NGOs, government and other role players in the fight against HIV/AIDS.

Churches develop a program to capacitate and empower the leadership, (including clergy, evangelists, deacons, bible women, preachers, stewards, leaders of all organizations and departments), to find creative ways of removing stigma and discrimination.

All ministers and stewards be held accountable for HIV/AIDS programmes and projects in their Circuits and Societies.