

RECEPTION OF MEMBERS FROM OTHER COMMUNIONS (1970)

That the Conference recommend these procedures for the reception of members from other communions and directs that they be printed in the General Directions in the Services for Entry into the Church when that booklet is revised:

- (i) Persons being received from other Christian communions, if they have not been previously baptized, should be baptized.
- (ii) If they have not been confirmed or full members of another Christian communion and now wish to be full members of the Methodist Church, they should be confirmed and received into full membership.
- (iii) If they have already been confirmed or full members of another Christian communion from which they can be received by transfer, they should be received into full membership of the Methodist Church by being admitted into membership of a local society without any public service, like members being received by transfer from another Methodist society.
- (iv) If they are confirmed or full members of another Christian communion from which they cannot be received by transfer, then the Minister shall ascertain that, after due consideration of the teaching and practice of the Methodist Church, they desire to take up its duties and privileges, and the Leaders meeting shall admit them into full membership: and then, if pastoral reasons so require, they may be publicly received in this way, preferably after the Sermon, at a service which is to include the Lord's Supper:

The Minister shall say:

N., you have been a member of another communion within the Church of Christ. Do you, having duly considered the teaching and practice of the Methodist Church, desire to take up the duties and privileges of membership?

Answer: I do.

The Minister shall give to *him* the right hand of fellowship saying:

N., we welcome you into the full membership of the Methodist Church and the Society in this place.

Prayer shall be offered for the person newly received, and *he* shall afterwards receive the Holy Communion.

(Agenda 1970, pp. 260f)

See *The Methodist Service Book*, pp.A42-44.