The Colorado District shall consider concurrence or non-concurrence (by majority vote of district assembly delegates) with action of the Twenty-eighth General Assembly held in Indianapolis, Indiana, USA, June 23-27, 2013, amending the constitution of the Church of the Nazarene.

NOTE: New text is underlined; brackets [ ] indicate text to be deleted.

RESOLVED that a new paragraph be added to the Manual as follows:

28.1. We are agreed that there are three legislative entities in the structure of the Church of the Nazarene: local, district, general. The regions serve as administrative entities for mission strategy and implementation.

REASONS:

1. This paragraph specifies the responsibilities of regions as strategic and administrative while local, district, and general entities are legislative.

2. The regions function as an administrative extension and strategic arm of the Global Mission Department and the Board of General Superintendents.
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NOTE: New text is underlined; brackets [ ] indicate text to be deleted.

RESOLVED that a new paragraph be added to the Manual as follows:

Resolutions amending the Articles of Faith (paragraphs 1-22) shall be referred by the General Assembly to the Board of General Superintendents for review by a study committee, including theologians and ordained ministers, appointed by the Board of General Superintendents that reflect the global nature of our Church. The committee shall report, with any recommendations or resolutions, to the subsequent General Assembly.¹

REASONS:

1. The Articles of Faith encompass the essential doctrinal positions of the Church of the Nazarene.
2. Changes in our Articles of Faith should require deliberate and comprehensive study by qualified individuals, including theologians that reflect the world-wide nature of our denomination.
3. This study should take place prior to any action taken by a General Assembly.
4. The subsequent General Assembly will have the benefit of the study along with any well-researched recommendations or resolutions, if necessary, to help guide its decision.
5. Placing this resolution within the Constitution ensures that it, like the Articles of Faith, would not be subject to the vote of a single General Assembly.

¹ The 2013 Manual Editing Committee revised some of the original language that was presented to and adopted by the 2013 General Assembly. This is in accordance with their duties as outlined in Manual paragraph 902.4. The actual paragraph number and location in the 2013-2017 Manual will also be determined by this Editing Committee.
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NOTE: New text is underlined; brackets [ ] indicate text to be deleted.

RESOLVED that Manual paragraph 18, Article of Faith XIV, be amended as follows:

18. We believe in the Bible doctrine of divine healing and urge our people [to seek] to offer the prayer of faith for the healing of the sick. We also believe God heals through the means of medical science.


REASONS:

1. The current grammatical construction is ambiguous and awkward. Two infinitive phrases—“to seek to offer”—would normally be connected by the conjunction “and.”

2. If we are encouraging our people to simply offer the prayer of faith for the healing of the sick, removing the phrase “to seek” would be in order. If we are encouraging our people to seek the prayer of faith for the healing of the sick and to offer such prayers, adding the word “and” would clarify the current statement. Either amendment is an improvement.
CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE
CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT BY THE
TWENTY-EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Adopted at Indianapolis, Indiana, USA
       June 2013

The Colorado District shall consider concurrence or non-concurrence (by majority vote of district assembly delegates) with action of the Twenty-eighth General Assembly held in Indianapolis, Indiana, USA, June 23-27, 2013, amending the constitution of the Church of the Nazarene.

NOTE: New text is underlined; brackets [ ] indicate text to be deleted.

RESOLVED that Manual paragraph 27.1, item 3, be amended as follows:

27.1 First. By doing that which is enjoined in the Word of God, which is our rule of both faith and practice, including:

FURTHER RESOLVED that Manual paragraph 27.1, item 5, be amended as follows:

27.1 First. By doing that which is enjoined in the Word of God, which is our rule of both faith and practice, including:
   5. Seeking to do good to the bodies and souls of [men] people; feeding the hungry, clothing the naked, visiting the sick and imprisoned, and ministering to the needy, as opportunity and ability are given (Matthew 25:35-36; 2 Corinthians 9:8-10; Galatians 2:10; James 2:15-16; 1 John 3:17-18).

REASONS:

1. The Church of the Nazarene has always supported the equality of men and women and recognizes that gender inclusive language is important in promoting that equality. (Manual paragraphs 903.5, 903.6)

2. The language in our Covenant of Christian Character should reflect our commitment to gender equality.
The Colorado District shall consider concurrence or non-concurrence (by majority vote of district assembly delegates) with action of the Twenty-eighth General Assembly held in Indianapolis, Indiana, USA, June 23-27, 2013, amending the constitution of the Church of the Nazarene.

NOTE: New text is underlined; brackets [ ] indicate text to be deleted.

RESOLVED that Manual paragraph 27.2, item #3, be amended as follows:

27.2. Second. By avoiding evil of every kind, including:
   3. Sexual immorality, such as premarital, extramarital, or same-sex relations; perversion in any form or looseness and impropriety of conduct (Genesis 19:4-11; Exodus 20:14; Leviticus 18:22; 20:13; Matthew 5:27-32; Romans 1:26-27; 1 Corinthians 6:9-11; Galatians 5:19; 1 Thessalonians 4:3-7; 1 Timothy 1:10).

REASONS:

1. Clarification is necessary as to our biblical beliefs regarding homosexual sexual activity regardless of any given culture’s definition of marriage.

2. Since homosexual practice is not mentioned anywhere else in our Constitution, our ministers and churches need this clarification in order to be able to clearly make the case that this is our Church’s stance.

3. While homosexual practice is addressed in the Covenant of Christian Conduct, several factors make the Covenant of Christian Character a more suitable location for its mention.

4. The Covenant of Christian Conduct is an expression of “collective Christian conscience,” (Manual paragraph 33.2) while the Covenant of Christian Character is introduced as “…that which is enjoined in the Word of God, which is our rule of both faith and practice….”. (Manual paragraph 27.1)

5. The Covenant of Christian Conduct is preceded by an encouragement that “They should be followed….” (Italics added by presenter for emphasis.) (Manual paragraph 33.2). The Covenant

2Scripture references are supportive of the Articles of Faith and were placed here by action of the 1976 General Assembly but are not to be considered part of the Constitutional text.
of Christian Character is preceded by the admonition that “It is required of all who desire to unite with the Church of the Nazarene...”. *(Manual paragraph 27)*

6. The Covenant of Christian Conduct “…purposes to relate timeless biblical principles to contemporary society…” *(Manual paragraph 33.1)*, whereas the Covenant of Christian Character communicates regarding issues specifically addressed by Scripture.

7. The Covenant of Christian Character is part of the Constitution, which is more difficult to change than the Covenant of Christian Conduct. Changes to the Constitution require a two-thirds majority of the General Assembly, and ratification by two-thirds of the district assemblies (Phase 2 and Phase 3), whereas changes to the Covenant of Christian Conduct do not require any ratification by district assemblies.

8. The Covenant of Christian Conduct was designated by the 2009 General Assembly to be cared for by the regions in regional handbooks rather than being included in the new Global *Manual*. This would leave us without any global statement on homosexual practice. This resolution remedies that.

9. Our prohibition of homosexual practice needs to be stated clearly, simply, and authoritatively. Our Covenant of Christian Character has always been understood to include homosexual practice under the category “extramarital.” We need to make this understanding explicit, in order to avoid any confusion or misconstrual of our longstanding intent.
The **Colorado** District shall consider concurrence or non-concurrence (by **majority vote** of district assembly delegates) with action of the Twenty-eighth General Assembly held in Indianapolis, Indiana, USA, June 23-27, 2013, amending the constitution of the Church of the Nazarene.

**NOTE:** New text is **underlined**; brackets [ ] indicate text to be deleted.

RESOLVED that *Manual* paragraph 30 be amended as follows:

Article III. District Assemblies

30. The General Assembly shall organize the membership of the church into district assemblies, giving such lay and ministerial representation therein as the General Assembly may deem fair and just, and shall determine qualifications of such representatives, provided, however, that all assigned ordained ministers shall be members thereof. The General Assembly **Boundaries Committee** shall [also] fix the boundaries of assembly districts[, and]. The General Assembly shall also define the powers and duties of district assemblies. (200-5.6)

**REASONS:**

1. In practice, the General Assembly does not establish boundaries. This service is provided by the General Boundaries Committee.

2. This resolution clarifies this process.
The Colorado District shall consider concurrence or non-concurrence (by majority vote of district assembly delegates) with action of the Twenty-eighth General Assembly held in Indianapolis, Indiana, USA, June 23-27, 2013, amending the constitution of the Church of the Nazarene.

NOTE: New text is underlined; brackets [ ] indicate text to be deleted.

RESOLVED that Manual paragraph 32 be amended as follows:

Amendments

32. The provisions of this Constitution may be repealed or amended when concurred in by a two-thirds vote of the General Assembly members present and voting, and when concurred in by not less than two-thirds of all the Phase 3 and Phase 2 district assemblies of the Church of the Nazarene. A majority vote is required on each constitutional amendment item by any Phase 3 or Phase 2 district assembly. Either the General Assembly or any Phase 3 or Phase 2 district assembly may take the initiative in the matter of proposing such amendments. As soon as such amendments shall have been adopted as herein provided, the result of the vote shall be announced by the Board of General Superintendents, whereupon such amendments shall have full force and effect.

REASON:

1. This adds language to clarify that the vote required by a district assembly is only a majority one.