

Resolution 18

UNETHICAL FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

1 WHEREAS, There is an increased scrutiny of the financial practices in our society’s institutions,
2 including churches and religious nonprofit organizations; and

3 WHEREAS, Ministers of the gospel are called to be accountable in their personal, church, and
4 ministry finances; and

5 WHEREAS, The current Bylaws are somewhat limited in ways of dealing with financial misdeeds
6 by ministers other than Article X, Section 3, c., “Any moral or ethical failure other
7 than sexual misconduct” and j. “A habit of running into debt which brings reproach
8 upon the gospel”; and

9 WHEREAS, While Article X, Section 3, c. and j. are good, they do not provide the clarity needed
10 to address the complex issues of handling finances in today’s atmosphere; and

11 WHEREAS, An amendment to the General Council Bylaws that addresses the financial practices
12 and misdeeds of our ministers is needed; therefore, be it

13 RESOLVED, That Article X. DISCIPLINE, Section 3. Causes of Disciplinary Action, j., page 126,
14 which currently reads:

j. A habit of running into debt which brings reproach upon the gospel.

Be amended to read:

j. ~~A habit of running into debt which brings reproach upon the gospel~~ Immoral,
18 unethical, or illegal practices related to personal, church, or ministry finances.

Sponsor: Executive Presbytery

Presented _____
Amended _____
Referred _____
Adopted _____
Lost _____