

1 Total Number of Pages: 1

2 Suggested Title: Amend Resolution 3001, Accessibility Grants to Churches

3 General Church Budget Implications: No

4 Global Implications: Applies Globally

5 Whereas, it is essential that The United Methodist Church as a denomination find a way to assist
6 local churches and ministry programs to find grant money to assist them in becoming more
7 accessible by removing architectural, communication, sensory, and other barriers; and

8 Whereas, our denomination establishes many programs around specific groups of people,
9 whether they be racial and/or ethnic groups or age-targeted groups; and

10 Whereas, all such groups, include persons with disabilities;

11 Whereas, there are more than one billion people living with disabilities in the world to whom the
12 United Nations calls attention by calling for institutions to become more accessible; and

13 Whereas, the *Book of Discipline* calls the Church to inclusiveness, and states: “A further mark of
14 inclusiveness is the setting of church activities in facilities accessible to persons with
15 disabilities;” (§140) which reflects Jesus’ words for inclusiveness in his parable of the Great
16 Banquet in Luke 14, “so my house may be full”; and

17 Whereas, since 2000, hundreds of churches have received grants to help them increase their
18 accessibility and to remove other barriers;

19 Therefore, be it resolved that The United Methodist Church set aside funds to provide
20 accessibility and program grants to churches in all annual conferences, Central Conferences and
21 other United Methodist entities, and that the program be administered from the DisAbility
22 Ministries Committee, General Commission on Religion and Race.

23 Date: August 1, 2019