

# Michigan Conference of the United Methodist Church

Motion of Board of Trustees to Approve Disaffiliating Congregations  
Corporate Session, November 30, 2023

WHEREAS the General Conference of the United Methodist Church (UMC) in February of 2019 passed ¶ 2553 of The Book of Discipline which provided a limited avenue for UMC congregations to disaffiliate from the UMC if by reason of conscience they could not abide by the UMC's current or future stance related to LGBT+ persons; such ¶ 2553 to expire on December 31, 2023;

WHEREAS ¶ 2553 mandates the Conference Board of Trustees to provide a Disaffiliation Agreement for Conference congregations from a GCFA template with terms provided by ¶ 2553 and such other terms as are not inconsistent with ¶ 2553; the Michigan Conference Board of Trustees has prepared and provided such Disaffiliation Agreement;

WHEREAS major requirements of the Disaffiliation Agreement include:

- a. Two-thirds vote in favor of disaffiliation at a duly called Church Conference;
- b. Payment of disaffiliation costs of:
  - 1) Equity Component of two times Ministry Shares, unless waived
  - 2) Unpaid Ministry Shares for the previous 12 months
  - 3) Additional 12 months of Ministry Shares
  - 4) Pro rata share of Aggregate Unfunded Pension Obligation
  - 5) Unpaid health and benefit Ministry Shares
  - 6) Unpaid loans and obligations to United Methodist entities, unless assigned;
- c. Covenants concerning the retention of records and the use of intellectual property;
- d. Quitclaim deed from the Conference with the release of the Trust Clause;

WHEREAS the congregations on the attached Addendum have held their Church Conferences and have voted to disaffiliate and are currently in the process of complying with the Disaffiliation Agreement, with all requirements to be completed prior to the Disaffiliation Date of July 1, 2023.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS RESOLVED that the Corporate Session of the Michigan Conference hereby approves the disaffiliation of the congregations listed on the attached Addendum for a Disaffiliation Date of December 31, 2023;

FURTHER RESOLVED, that approval of disaffiliation of these congregations is conditioned on the completion of all requirements of the Disaffiliation Agreement by the Disaffiliation Date of December 15, 2023, to the satisfaction of the Michigan Conference Board of Trustees;

FURTHER RESOLVED, that in the event a congregation does not satisfy the requirements of the Disaffiliation Agreement to the satisfaction of the Michigan Conference Board of Trustees by December 15, 2023, the congregation shall be notified, and that congregation will continue as a United Methodist congregation in the Michigan Conference of the United Methodist Church.

# Addendum: Corporate Session Motion

November 30, 2023

## CENTRAL BAY DISTRICT

1. Alger
2. Berlin Center
3. Garfield
4. Grant Center
5. Ionia: Zion
6. Ithaca
7. LeValley
8. Mecosta: New Hope
9. Saginaw: New Heart
10. Stanwood: Northland
11. Gladwin: New Beginnings
12. Gladwin: Wagarville Community
13. Whittemore

## EAST WINDS DISTRICT

14. Armada: First
15. Burt
16. Carland
17. Chapin
18. Deckerville
19. Fairgrove
20. Kingston
21. Lapeer: Trinity
22. Port Sanilac
23. Reese
24. Snover: Heritage
25. St. Clair: First
26. Sutton-Sunshine
27. Swartz Creek
28. West Forest

## GREATER SOUTHWEST DISTRICT

29. Arden
30. Athens
31. Bellevue
32. Dowling: Country Chapel
33. Portage: Pathfinder
34. St. Joseph: First
35. Union City

## HERITAGE DISTRICT

36. Hardy
37. Lansing: Mount Hope
38. Manchester: Sharon

## NORTHERN SKIES DISTRICT

39. Alba
40. Engadine
41. Epsilon
42. Fife Lake
43. Gaylord: First
44. Germfask
45. Grand Marais
46. Greenland
47. Hillman
48. Indian River
49. Kewadin
50. McMillan
51. Norway: Grace
52. Republic

## WESTERN WATERS DISTRICT

53. Bear Lake
54. Grand Rapids: Faith
55. Holton
56. Manistee
57. Ravenna
58. Sand Lake
59. Scottville
60. South Ensley
61. Twin Lake
62. Wolf Lake