

Instructions for the Church Conference Vote on Disaffiliation January 21, 2024, 3:30PM in the Sanctuary

Please arrive early as there will be a registration process for professing members. We will open the doors at 2:45PM. The meeting will start at 3:30PM. Please come early to ensure that you are properly registered to vote and seated before the meeting begins.

You may enter the sanctuary through any door. There will be four registration tables in front of the altar rail in the sanctuary. Please register at the table according to your last name. Full professing members will sign and receive a wristband. Spouses or family members who are not professing members will not sign in nor receive a wristband but may attend the meeting. We will reserve the first two pews for those with mobility concerns. We ask that if your last name comes early in the alphabet, please sit near the front half of the sanctuary. If your last name comes later in the alphabet, please sit near the back half of the sanctuary. This will help in the distribution of ballots.

Childcare is available for children 5th grade and under. Parents need to sign in their children in the Wesley Building and sign them out in the same place.

Once all of our professing members have signed in, the District Superintendent will start the Church Conference. Rev. McMakin will pray, and we will sing a congregational hymn. Our Church Council chairperson will give a synopsis of our discernment process and present a motion from Church Council that our church disaffiliate/separate from the United Methodist Church.

The District Superintendent will follow Robert's Rules of Order and allow up to three speeches in favor of the motion to disaffiliate and up to three speeches against the motion to disaffiliate. Speeches will be limited to three minutes or less.

To distribute the ballots for the vote, the District Superintendent will call the roll of professing members who have signed in. As each person's name is called, one of our ushers or Trustees will take a ballot to them. This may be a lengthy process, but this is what the District Superintendent has required in order to ensure that only professing members be given a ballot.

Once all of the professing members have received their ballots, they will have the opportunity to mark their ballots. The two options will be: (Select only one option)

_____ YES (I am in favor of the motion to separate from the United Methodist Church)

_____ NO (I am not in favor of the motion to separate from the United Methodist Church)

Once all the ballots have been marked, we will collect the ballots. The District Superintendent and two of our Trustees will count the ballots in the sanctuary. All professing members are asked to stay while the ballots are counted in order to hear the results of the vote.

After the results are reported, there will be a prayer, a closing hymn and a benediction.

We appreciate the manner in which everyone has conducted themselves so far through this process, and we ask that everyone continue to conduct themselves in a manner that is pleasing unto the Lord.