

Caney Fork River District Closing Resolutions

Whereas, the leaders of Wartrace United Methodist Church, a church located in the Caney Fork River District of the Tennessee Conference of the United Methodist Church, expressed the congregation's desire to no longer be a congregation of the United Methodist Church, and cease to use, keep, or maintain the church property as a place of divine worship of the United Methodist Church; and

Whereas, the presiding Bishop, a majority of the District Superintendents and the Caney Fork River District Board of Church Location and Building determined on 9/18/19 and 9/26/19, respectively, that exigent circumstances as defined in Paragraph 2549 of *The Book of Discipline of the United Methodist Church* (2016) existed requiring immediate protection of the local church's property for the benefit of the denomination; and

Whereas, by operation of Church law, title to all real and personal, tangible, and intangible property of the local church vested in the Conference Board of Trustees pursuant to Paragraph 2549 of *The Book of Discipline of the United Methodist Church* (2016) at that time, and said Conference Trustees, within their authority as outlined in the *Discipline*, provided for disposition of such property in the following manner: sold to Wartrace Community Church, and

Whereas, the district superintendent is committed to helping existing members transfer their membership to a congregation of their choosing;

Now therefore, be it resolved, that the Tennessee Conference does hereby declare Wartrace United Methodist Church formally closed as a United Methodist Church effective September 19, 2020, and ratifies all actions of the Conference Trustees with regard to disposition of the subject property pursuant to the ad interim process outlined in the *Discipline*.

Whereas, the leaders of Hickory Grove United Methodist church, a church located in the Caney Fork River District of the Tennessee Conference of the United Methodist Church, expressed the congregation's desire to no longer be a congregation of the United Methodist Church, and cease to use, keep, or maintain the church property as a place of divine worship of the United Methodist Church; and

Whereas, the presiding Bishop, a majority of the District Superintendents and the Caney Fork River District Board of Church Location and Building determined on 9/18/19 and 9/26/19, respectively, that exigent circumstances as defined in Paragraph 2549 of *The Book of Discipline of the United Methodist Church* (2016) existed requiring immediate protection of the local church's property for the benefit of the denomination; and

Whereas, by operation of Church law, title to all real and personal, tangible, and intangible property of the local church vested in the Conference Board of Trustees pursuant to Paragraph 2549 of *The Book of Discipline of the United Methodist Church* (2016) at that time, and said Conference Trustees, within their authority as outlined in the *Discipline*, provided for disposition of such property in the following manner: sold to Christian Community Church, and

Whereas, the district superintendent is committed to helping existing members transfer their membership to a congregation of their choosing;

Now therefore, be it resolved, that the Tennessee Conference does hereby declare Hickory Grove United Methodist Church formally closed as a United Methodist Church effective September 19, 2020, and ratifies all actions of the Conference Trustees with regard to disposition of the subject property pursuant to the ad interim process outlined in the *Discipline*.

Whereas, the leaders of Hilham United Methodist Church, a church located in the Caney Fork River District of the Tennessee Conference of the United Methodist Church, expressed the congregation's desire to no longer be a congregation of the United Methodist Church, and cease to use, keep, or maintain the church property as a place of divine worship of the United Methodist Church; and

Whereas, the presiding Bishop, a majority of the District Superintendents and the Caney Fork River District Board of Church Location and Building determined on 7/27/19 and 7/25/19, respectively, that exigent circumstances as defined in Paragraph 2549 of *The Book of Discipline of the United Methodist Church* (2016) existed requiring immediate protection of the local church's property for the benefit of the denomination; and

Whereas, by operation of Church law, title to all real and personal, tangible, and intangible property of the local church vested in the Conference Board of Trustees pursuant to Paragraph 2549 of *The Book of Discipline of the United Methodist Church* (2016) at that time, and said Conference Trustees, within their authority as outlined in the *Discipline*, provided for disposition of such property in the following manner: sold to Hilham Union Church, and

Whereas, the district superintendent is committed to helping existing members transfer their membership to a congregation of their choosing;

Now therefore, be it resolved, that the Tennessee Conference does hereby declare Hilham United Methodist Church formally closed as a United Methodist Church effective September 19, 2020, and ratifies all actions of the Conference Trustees with regard to disposition of the subject property pursuant to the ad interim process outlined in the *Discipline*.

Whereas, the leaders of Pleasant Grove United Methodist Church, a church located in the Caney Fork River District of the Tennessee Conference of the United Methodist Church, expressed the congregation's desire to no longer be a congregation of the United Methodist Church, and cease to use, keep, or maintain the church property as a place of divine worship of the United Methodist Church; and

Whereas, the presiding Bishop, a majority of the District Superintendents and the Caney Fork River District Board of Church Location and Building determined on 6/29/20 and 7/9/20, respectively, that exigent circumstances as defined in Paragraph 2549 of *The Book of Discipline of the United Methodist Church* (2016) existed requiring immediate protection of the local church's property for the benefit of the denomination; and

Whereas, by operation of Church law, title to all real and personal, tangible, and intangible property of the local church vested in the Conference Board of Trustees pursuant to Paragraph 2549 of *The Book of Discipline of the United Methodist Church* (2016) at that time, and said Conference Trustees, within their authority as outlined in the *Discipline*, provided for disposition of such property in the following manner: sold to Pleasant Grove Fellowship Church, and

Whereas, the district superintendent is committed to helping existing members transfer their membership to a congregation of their choosing;

Now therefore, be it resolved, that the Tennessee Conference does hereby declare Pleasant Grove United Methodist Church formally closed as a United Methodist Church effective September 19, 2020, and ratifies all actions of the Conference Trustees with regard to disposition of the subject property pursuant to the ad interim process outlined in the *Discipline*.

Whereas, the leaders Martin's Chapel United Methodist Church, a church located in the Caney Fork River District of the Tennessee Conference of the United Methodist Church, expressed the congregation's desire to no longer be a congregation of the United Methodist Church, and cease to use, keep, or maintain the church property as a place of divine worship of the United Methodist Church; and

Whereas, the presiding Bishop, a majority of the District Superintendents and the Caney Fork River District Board of Church Location and Building determined on 11/8/19 and 11/26/19, respectively, that exigent circumstances as defined in Paragraph 2549 of *The Book of Discipline of the United Methodist Church* (2016) existed requiring immediate protection of the local church's property for the benefit of the denomination; and

Whereas, by operation of Church law, title to all real and personal, tangible, and intangible property of the local church vested in the Conference Board of Trustees pursuant to Paragraph 2549 of *The Book of Discipline of the United Methodist Church* (2016) at that time, and said Conference Trustees, within their authority as outlined in the *Discipline*, provided for disposition of such property in the following manner: sold to Martin's Chapel and

Whereas, the district superintendent is committed to helping existing members transfer their membership to a congregation of their choosing;

Now therefore, be it resolved, that the Tennessee Conference does hereby declare Martin's Chapel United Methodist Church formally closed as a United Methodist Church effective September 19, 2020, and ratifies all actions of the Conference Trustees with regard to disposition of the subject property pursuant to the ad interim process outlined in the *Discipline*.

Whereas, the Jacob's Pillar United Methodist Church has had a long and proud history and has served God faithfully through the United Methodist Church for many years, and

Whereas in recent years the congregation has experienced a decline in membership such that it is no longer feasible to keep the church operational as a church; and

Whereas the district superintendent is committed to helping existing members transfer their membership to a congregation of their choosing;

Be it resolved, that the Jacob's Pillar United Methodist Church be closed effective 7/31/20;

Be it further resolved that the Conference Trustees be authorized to take possession of the property and make the determination of how the property may best be used for the kingdom of God. If it is determined by the Trustees that it is best that the property be sold, that they be authorized to sell the property, both real and personal, with proceeds to be used as directed by the Conference Trustees, consistent with the provisions of *The Book of Discipline*.

Whereas, the Shipley United Methodist Church has had a long and proud history and has served God faithfully through the United Methodist Church for many years, and

Whereas in recent years the congregation has experienced a decline in membership such that it is no longer feasible to keep the church operational as a church; and

Whereas the district superintendent is committed to helping existing members transfer their membership to a congregation of their choosing;

Be it resolved, that the Shipley United Methodist Church be closed effective 1/13/20;

Be it further resolved that the Conference Trustees be authorized to take possession of the property and make the determination of how the property may best be used for the kingdom of God. If it is determined by the Trustees that it is best that the property be sold, that they be authorized to sell the property, both real and personal, with proceeds to be used as directed by the Conference Trustees, consistent with the provisions of *The Book of Discipline*.