

Harpeth River Closings Resolutions

Whereas, the Mt. Nebo 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 Mt. Nebo United Methodist Church be closed effective December 29, 2019;

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 leaders of Shawnettee United Methodist church, a church located in the Harpeth 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 Harpeth River District Board of Church Location and Building determined on August 16, 2020, 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; 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 Shawnettee United Methodist church formally closed as a United Methodist Church effective August 16, 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*.