

Dear Rev. Beverly Copley-

October 25, 2022

We the Administrative Team of Wesley Memorial United Methodist Church have a majority of members (9 out of 12 present) who would like to meet with you to discuss a discernment process to consider the question of disaffiliation from the United Methodist Church.

Our reason for disaffiliation would be under ¶2553, “for reasons of conscience regarding a change in the requirements and provisions of the *Book of Discipline* related to the practice of homosexuality or the ordination or marriage of self-avowed practicing homosexuals as resolved and adopted by the 2019 General Conference, or the actions or inactions of its annual conference related to these issues which follow.”

The action of the WNCC “related to the change in the requirements and provisions of the Book of Discipline related to the practice of homosexuality or the ordination or marriage of self-avowed practicing homosexuals as resolved and adopted by the 2019 General Conference” that we disagree with or have concerns with is:

The June 20-23, 2019 WNCC passed Petition 22 (564 to 328 votes) which stated in item 3. “We **reject** the Traditional Plan approved at General Conference 2019 as inconsistent with the gospel of Jesus Christ and will **resist** its implementation.” We feel that the regulations of the Book of Discipline should not be rejected and their implementation should not be resisted by any UMC annual conference.

We request that you visit our church and give a presentation to help us understand the process, plus provide us with the checklist and pension liability as well as any other disaffiliation fees or requirements. Our pastor, Reverend Jeff Patterson is aware of our request to have you come and speak to us. You may contact the Chairman of Trustees, Jim Holcomb or co-Lay Leader, Mary Sansing so that we may set this up together as soon as possible.

Thank you for your time and attention.

Jim Holcomb, Chair of Trustees
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