

**Checklist Meeting Minutes with District Superintendent**  
**of the Northern Piedmont District of WNCCUMC**

**November 17, 2022**

Members present: Reverend Beverly Copley (District Superintendent), Jeff Patterson (Senior Pastor), Jim Holcomb (Chairman of Administrative Team and Chairman of Trustees), Mary Sansing (co-Lay Leader), Dan Smoak (co-Lay Leader), Harvey Lowd (Chairman of Finance), Tom Smothers (Chairman of SPRC), Trip Dixon (Lay Delegate), Jerry Cornwell (Lay Delegate), David McCoy (alternate Lay Delegate), David Pruette (Trustees member), Don Shaw (Finance member), Barbara Coughlin (DT co-Chairperson), Rev. Clark Chilton (DT member & Associate Pastor), Pastor Lisa Tanico (DT member & Pastor), Jessica Nelson (DT member), Wray Hodgkin (DT member & Chairman of AESD), Whit Holbrook (WMUMC member), Jamie Collins (WMUMC member).

-Rev. Bev Copley opened the meeting with a prayer. She stated that our letter requesting a discernment process toward a Church Conference vote had been accepted and that this meeting was a "Checklist Meeting". She took names of the people present and their official positions within WMUMC. She confirmed that the officers required to be at a Checklist Meeting were present.

-Rev. Copley proceeded with the Checklist Meeting and answered questions during and after her presentation. She read our answer to the required question laid out by ¶12553. Specifically, we objected to Petition 22 passed by the 2019 WNCC. (See attached letter and link to Petition 22 article). To put this in context, she read the entirety of Petition 22. The District Superintendent feels that it is important that our church website contain our letter to her so that our congregation will know the stated reasons for having a vote on disaffiliation.

-Rev. Copley then read through the Checklist. She added a request to have a meeting with 10 to 12 people in our church with whom she has been in contact and who she said do not feel they are being listened to by the leadership of the church. Due to the upcoming Advent Season, she agreed that this meeting should be held in January 2023. The DT co-chairs agreed to arrange this meeting. She will provide the names of the 10-12 people. She then reviewed potential consequences of disaffiliation. She shared the current cost to our church of disaffiliation, which is slightly more than \$1 million. A printed copy was given to Finance Chair, Harvey Lowd. This will be recalculated at the time of the Church Conference and whichever number is lower will be the final number.

-Rev. Copley shared specifics of a Church Conference vote. The vote will be certified by the Membership Secretary (Tish Schultheiss) and the District Superintendent. The vote will be in-person and will be on paper ballots as a secret ballot. She recommended that the Church Conference be held no later than the end of February, since all Petitions to be considered at the June 2023 WNCC must be submitted by April 1, 2023. We are required to submit archival information to the WNCC. This information can be on paper or by digital copies. All documents on the checklist must be received prior to having a Church Conference vote.

The meeting was adjourned by Rev. Copley.

Submitted by Mary Sansing 11/22/22

Article on Petition 22 of 2019 WNCC: <https://www.wnccumc.org/newsdetail/petitions-update-12838215>