

## **METRO DISTRICT**

## TENNESSEE-WESTERN KENTUCKY CONFERENCE THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

To: Professing Members of Christ United Methodist Church

From: Rev. Dr. David O. Weatherly, Interim Metro District Superintendent

Date: September 1, 2022

Re: NOTICE and CALL of Church Conference on Sunday, October 30, 2022 at 9:45 a.m.

This is to inform you that there will be a called Church Conference on **Sunday, October 30, 2022 at 9:45a.m.** to be held in **Seabrook Hall** of **Christ United Methodist Church**. The only agenda item for this Church Conference will be to vote on whether Christ UMC will disaffiliate from the United Methodist Church for reasons of conscience resulting from the changes in the requirements and provisions of the Book of Discipline that were adopted at the 2019 General Conference, or the actions or inactions of its annual conference, which follow. Pursuant to Paragraph 2553, such process is to be initiated by a 2/3 majority vote of a Church Conference, after which terms and conditions for the disaffiliation shall be established by the Conference Trustees, consistent with Paragraph 2553. The Church Conference is therefore called pursuant to these provisions.

To assure broad notice to the full professing membership, in addition to delivering this letter by mail or electronic delivery to all professing members, an announcement shall be made from the pulpit on the two Sundays prior to the Church Conference, as well as inclusion in upcoming church newsletters and electronic means of standard communication with the church, all meeting the minimum ten-day advanced notice of the Church Conference.

All Professing Members of Christ UMC are requested and invited to attend and participate in this Church Conference. Meetings in the United Methodist Church are generally open to observers, but <u>only full professing members are allowed to vote</u> at a Church Conference. A "Professing Member" for this vote is a baptized Christian who has professed faith in Jesus Christ and taken the vows of membership (after baptism or in transferring their membership from another church) and who agrees to be part of and support the ministry of Christ United Methodist Church. Ballots will be distributed to all present whose names are on the current roll of Professing Members. You must be physically present to vote – no proxies or votes may submitted electronically.

So that you may be prepared for this meeting and vote, a sample ballot has been enclosed with this notification. **This is only a sample ballot** and may not be used for voting at the Church Conference. The official ballot will be presented at the Church Conference and distributed only to those individuals whose names appear on the role of the professing members.

Pursuant to Paragraph 2553, if a 2/3 majority of the Professing Members present at the Church Conference vote to disaffiliate, terms and conditions for the disaffiliation shall be established consistent with Paragraph 2553. The disaffiliation is subject to final approval by the Annual Conference.

If the Annual Conference agrees to the disaffiliation of a church, each member will be asked to indicate whether they intend to withdraw their membership from the United Methodist Church. Resources would be available to assist members who do not withdraw to help them place their membership in another United Methodist church.

Please be in prayer for all involved in this important process in the life of your congregation.

Respectfully,

Rev. Dr. David O. Weatherly

David O. Weatherly

Interim Metro District Superintendent, Tennessee-Western Kentucky Conference, The United Methodist Church