

113 of the 858 United Methodist Churches or 13% of the churches in SC separated from the denomination on Tuesday June 6. This included the largest UMC in SC. The statewide Annual Conference voted over 1500 to 6 to let these people go in peace and with their property. Those separating this year are in the first wave of separations caused by a fast-paced leftward theological direction in the denomination as evidenced in many areas of Bible-interpretation, including traditional understandings of who Jesus is, the reality of the resurrection, and long-standing doctrines of the church. Sexuality and traditional marriage are also included. It has to be noted, however, that the churches separating welcome all. They are not hate-filled bigots. They, however, clearly want to keep their promises to uphold both the Scripture and the United Methodist Book of Discipline. United Methodist teachings have already been breached in many places in the US, including the Southeast.

For reasons of conscience, this is a disagreement over whether the culture should influence the church more than the church influences the culture. Next year's international governing body is extremely likely to overturn the teaching of the church that currently states that no ministers can be practicing homosexuals or heterosexuals outside of traditional marriage. Many churches are discerning whether they should stay or leave now before the opportunity closes. This is a huge question for local churches because, although other denominations have already gone through this without much repercussions, in the UMC this sends earthquake-size shockwaves because UMC bishops have sole authority to assign ministers. The local UMC churches are connected to other UMCs more tightly than any other denomination except Roman Catholic.

The SC UMC churches "blessed" each other to depart in peace. There was no rancor. Local churches hope to do the same. It takes a 2/3 vote of a congregation to depart, and pay 10% of their property value and liquid assets. For instance, St. John's in Aiken, is in the "Discernment Process," and its costs to separate would be significant. However, St. John's has always been committed to its Methodist roots and to ministry to the community. It is a church that will continue to open its doors to everyone regardless of who they are, and will continue to host the hundreds of groups, concerts, and social programs to aid the community.

11/15/2016
213
6/15/2016
7/15/2016

Resolution of the Board of Trustees of the South Carolina Conference of The United Methodist Church to ratify and approve the closure of the below listed churches.

Whereas, the South Carolina Conference has used ¶2549 of *The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church (2016)* to close churches. Many of these churches were closed on an ad- interim basis because of exigent circumstances.

Whereas, the General Conference of The United Methodist Church held in 2019 had before the body changes to *The Book of Discipline* addressing human sexuality. There were no changes made at this Conference to any provision addressing human sexuality.

Whereas, the very clear language of ¶2553 of *The Book of Discipline of the United Methodist Church*, adopted by the General Conference of The United Methodist Church held in 2019, allows a church to disaffiliate from the denomination for reasons of conscience regarding a change in the requirements and provisions of *The Book of Discipline* related to the practice of homosexuality, the ordination of self-avowed, practicing homosexuals as resolved and adopted by the 2019 General Conference, or the actions or inactions of the annual conference of that particular local church, related to these issues which followed the 2019 General Conference. Giving these words their ordinary meaning, a local church in South Carolina cannot disaffiliate using ¶2553 of *The Book of Discipline* because of actions or inaction in other annual conferences.

Whereas, Bishop Holston and the South Carolina Conference have not made any statements contrary to *The Book of Discipline* on these issues. The South Carolina Conference has affirmed its commitment to the language and positions set forth in *The Book of Discipline* with consistency.

Whereas, it is clear a number of United Methodist churches in South Carolina find themselves unable to serve the purpose for which they were organized, in that they cannot accept the actions taken in other Conferences of The United Methodist Church and cannot support the possible future actions of future General Conferences as binding on them on the issues of human sexuality. The issues of human sexuality have prevented them in their mission to make disciples for the transformation of the world.

Whereas, the Board of Trustees, with understanding of the difficulties of owning, insuring, and maintaining closed church properties, with prayer, consultation, and reflection, guided by input of the Cabinet and conference leadership, and with the framework of the Agreement format for disaffiliation, developed and refined a Separation Agreement.

Whereas, this Separation Agreement required the local church to participate in a discernment process, and once that was completed allowed for a Church Conference vote on separation from The United Methodist Church.

Whereas, the following churches have followed this process, and by votes of at least 2/3 majority have voted to separate from The United Methodist Church. They have signed a Separation Agreement, and have placed their payments for separation in escrow.

Whereas, these churches are now before this body for approval of their closure, pursuant to the terms of the Separation Agreement.

Whereas, it is the belief of the Board of Trustees that these closures are the best pathway to allow the South Carolina Conference of The United Methodist Church to follow *The Book of Discipline* and to allow these churches desiring to depart to do so with grace.

Therefore, be it resolved, that pursuant to the authority granted to the Board of Trustees and to this body under ¶2549.3(b) of *The Book of Discipline*, as confirmed by the District Superintendents of the South Carolina Conference of The United Methodist Church, the Cabinet and Bishop Holston, and authorized by vote of this body, be it here approved that the Separation Agreements duly executed by the following churches shall govern the disposition of the property of the below listed churches. The recorded deeds shall be valid to transfer the title to the real property and this document shall be approved by this body as binding on the South Carolina Conference of The United Methodist Church.

Be it here approved that the following United Methodist churches will be closed effective June 30, 2023.

The list is sorted by District and GCFA#

Church (District/Town) GCFA#

St Andrew (Anderson/Easley) 270508
Chiquola (Anderson/Honea Path) 270598
Bells (Anderson/Abbeville) 270634
Salem (Anderson/Salem) 271148

Church (District/Town) GCFA#

Aldersgate (Charleston/North Charleston) 271365
Charleston Korean (Charleston/N Charleston) 271651
Friendship (Charleston/Cross) 271731
Pinopolis (Charleston/Pinopolis) 271924

Church (District/Town) GCFA#

Point Hope (Charleston/Mt Pleasant) 279758
Columbia Korean (Columbia/Columbia) 272280
Rehoboth/Leesville (Columbia/Batesburg Leesville) 272531
Chapin (Columbia/Chapin) 272677
Lebanon (Columbia/Eastover) 272768
Mt Horeb (Columbia/Lexington) 272930
Pond Branch (Columbia/Gilbert) 273023
Cades (Florence/Cades) 275660
Cameron (Florence/Lake City) 275795
First/Hemingway (Florence/Hemingway) 275820
St Paul/Coward (Florence/Coward) 275831
Ebenezer (Florence/Hemingway) 275842
Old Johnsonville (Florence/Johnsonville) 275933
Mt Vernon (Florence/Greeleyville) 275955
Prospect (Florence/Pamplico) 275990
Lane (Florence/Lane) 276004
Liberty Chapel (Florence/Florence) 276026
New Zion (Florence/New Zion) 276061
Pine Grove/Timmons ville (Florence/Timmons ville) 276106
Pisgah (Florence/Florence) 276128
Cedar Swamp (Florence/Kingstree) 276130
Millwood (Florence/Kingstree) 276163
Tabernacle (Florence/Pamplico) 276196
Shiloh/Turbeville (Florence/Lynchburg) 276210
Trinity/New Zion (Florence/Alcolu) 276232
Trio (Florence/Salters) 276243
Pine Grove/Turbeville (Florence/Turbeville) 276265
Salem/Timmons ville (Florence/Timmons ville) 276287
Earle (Florence/Andrews) 276334
Suttons (Florence/Andrews) 276345
Good Hope (Florence/Hemingway) 276414
St Luke/Kingstree (Florence/Salters) 956923
Dials (Greenville/Gray Court) 273411
Shiloh (Greenville/Gray Court) 273433
Buncombe Street (Greenville/Greenville) 273626
Covenant (Greenville/Greer) 273945
Sharon/Greer (Greenville/Greer) 274107
Zoar/Greer (Greenville/Greer) 274164
Mauldin (Greenville/Mauldin) 274200
Mountain View (Greenville/Taylors) 274222
Hodges (Greenwood/Hodges) 270645
Shiloh (Greenwood/Saluda) 272894
Butler (Greenwood/Saluda) 273125
McCormick (Greenwood/Mc Cormick) 275124
Concord (Hartsville/Bishopville) 280198
Dalzell (Hartsville/Dalzell) 280314
Lewis Chapel (Hartsville/Sumter) 280393
Bethel/Oswego (Hartsville/Sumter) 280462
McLeod Chapel (Hartsville/Rembert) 280520
St John/Rembert (Hartsville/Rembert) 280564
St John/Sumter (Hartsville/Sumter) 280600
St Mark's/Sumter (Broad Street) (Hartsville/Sumter) 280622
St Matthew/Bishopville (Hartsville/Bishopville) 280746

Church (District/Town) GCFA#

Beulah (Hartsville/Camden) 280781
Trinity/Andrews (Marion/Andrews) 275625
Wayne (Marion/Georgetown) 275784
Bethel/Georgetown (Marion/Andrews) 276447
Aynor (Marion/Aynor) 276505
Rehoboth/Aynor (Marion/Galivants Ferry) 276516
First/Bennettsville (Marion/Bennettsville) 276540
Zoan (Marion/Loris) 276551
Antioch/Bennettsville (Marion/Bennettsville) 276562
Christ/Bennettsville (Marion/Bennettsville) 276584
Pisgah (Marion/Aynor) 276618
Boykin (Marion/Bennettsville) 276653
Trinity/Clio (Marion/Clio) 276664
Pine Grove (Marion/McColl) 276675
Smyrna/Bennettsville (Marion/Bennettsville) 276711
Berea (Marion/Mc Coll) 276733
Main Street/Dillon (Marion/Dillon) 276744
First/Loris (Marion/Loris) 276868
Main Street/McColl (Marion/McColl) 276904
Brown Swamp (Marion/Conway) 276948
Oak Grove/Wallace (Marion/Wallace) 276994
Pleasant Hill/Wallace (Marion/Wallace) 277145
Center (Marion/Mullins) 277191
Tranquil (Marion/Mullins) 277214
Limestone (Orangeburg/Orangeburg) 277817
Ebenezer/Orange Cir (Orangeburg/North) 278025
Cattle Creek (Orangeburg/Rowesville) 278060
Grace Community (Rock Hill/Fort Mill) 270862
Capers Chapel (Rock Hill/Chester) 278151
Catawba (Rock Hill/Catawba) 278162
New Hope/Chester (Rock Hill/Chester) 278173
Armenia (Rock Hill/Chester) 278242
Mt Vernon (Rock Hill/Hickory Grove) 278388
Bethel/Lancaster (Rock Hill/Lancaster) 278754
Wesley Chapel (Spartanburg/Union) 278457
Liberty/Campobello (Spartanburg/Landrum) 279097
Buffalo (Spartanburg/Buffalo) 279100
Campobello (Spartanburg/Campobello) 279111
Carlisle (Spartanburg/Carlisle) 279122
Bethlehem/Jonesville (Spartanburg/Union) 279350
Sardis/Union (Spartanburg/Union) 279417
Fosters Chapel (Spartanburg/Jonesville) 279428
Lyman (Spartanburg/Lyman) 279485
Roebuck (Spartanburg/Roebuck) 279656
Reidville Road (Spartanburg/Moore) 279691
Walnut Grove (Spartanburg/Roebuck) 279907
Tillman (Walterboro/Tillman) 271695
Cottageville (Walterboro/Cottageville) 271720
Cypress (Walterboro/Ridgeville) 271775
Mt Tabor (Walterboro/Ridgeville) 271797
Trinity/Ridgeville (Walterboro/Ridgeville) 271833
St Paul/Ridgeland (Walterboro/Ridgeland) 271968

- Banning large-capacity ammunition magazines and weapons designed to fire multiple rounds each time the trigger is pulled
- Promoting new technologies to aid law-enforcement agencies to trace crime guns and promote public safety.

Submitted By the
Advocacy Committee Chair Rev. Bernie Mazyck and
SC Board of Church & Society Chair Rev Amiri B Hooker

ENCOURAGING LEADERSHIP WITH INTEGRITY

A resolution submitted to the 2023 South Carolina Annual Conference

Whereas, the vibrant future of The United Methodist Church requires deep commitment and loyal leadership at every level, and

Whereas, grounded in a sense of duty and loyalty to the mission of the church, leaders are counted on and expected to make decisions about the future of The United Methodist Church with the absolute best interest of Christ's church at heart, and

Whereas, the selection, election, and appointment of clergy and lay leaders throughout The United Methodist Church includes the implicit understanding that leaders will ethically serve in each of their leadership roles with the utmost integrity, and

Whereas, leaders who do not intend to remain in The United Methodist Church entangle themselves in a significant conflict of interest, and

Whereas, the service of a leader whose call to discipleship is aligned with The United Methodist Church is prevented by the continued leadership of an individual who has made a private decision and/or public declaration to leave The United Methodist Church, and

Whereas, in November of 2022, and in historic fashion, a resolution in support of leading with integrity was adopted at all five Jurisdictional Conferences.

Therefore, be it resolved that the South Carolina Annual Conference expresses both respect and gratitude to those who have voluntarily stepped away from positions of leadership as they journey away from membership in The United Methodist Church.

Be it further resolved that, as we continue this period of transition the South Carolina Annual Conference encourages every United Methodist, as a disciple of Jesus the Christ, to move forward in fairness and with integrity.

Be it further resolved that the South Carolina Annual Conference encourages all lay and clergy members who, after prayer and discernment, have chosen to disaffiliate from The United Methodist Church to recuse themselves from leadership roles in all areas of the The United Methodist Church, including the local church, district, conference, jurisdictional, and general church level committees, boards, agencies, delegations, and episcopal leaders, and invest their gifts and talents fully in the path forward they have chosen.

Be it further resolved that we encourage the South Carolina Conference Board of Trustees to develop codes of conduct to manage conflicts of interest that may arise around discussions of disaffiliation agreements.

Submitted by,
South Carolina Reconciling Ministries Network

IN SUPPORT OF CREATING A U.S. REGIONAL CONFERENCE

A resolution submitted to the 2023 South Carolina Annual Conference

Whereas, the seven Central Conferences and five U.S. Jurisdictions of The United Methodist Church engage in mission together in 136 countries; and

Whereas, the connectional ties between the church in the United States and the Central Conferences are significant and vital to the continued mission and ministry of the worldwide United Methodist Church; and

Whereas, the existing structure of The United Methodist Church at the general church level has historically impeded each region from effectively tailoring its ministry to its specific contexts; and

Whereas, the existing structure of The United Methodist Church at the general church level diminishes our ability to be a vital and effective church and needs to be re-envisioned to achieve more fair and equitable church governance; and

1 Whereas, the Apostle Paul offered a beautiful example making clear the value of a
2 church established in diverse places with shared beliefs, alongside local and regional
3 differences in structure, worship, and style best suited to particular contexts; and
4 Whereas, the creation of a U.S. Regional Conference and the conversion of the Central
5 Conferences to Regional Conferences, as outlined in the Christmas Covenant, developed by
6 Central Conference leaders in Africa and the Philippines, would establish structural parity
7 throughout the worldwide church; and
8 Whereas, the creation of a U.S. Regional Conference, as outlined in legislation put
9 forward by the Connectional Table will establish the governance necessary to allow each
10 region to design ministry for its particular contexts, and thus more effectively make disciples of
11 Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world; and
12 Whereas, the South Carolina Annual Conference aspires to vital, thriving, multicultural,
13 and diverse ministries that are open to all people and can be a beacon of hope for the
14 worldwide United Methodist Church, and
15 Whereas, in November of 2022, and in historic fashion, a resolution in support of a
16 U.S. Regional Conference was adopted at all five Jurisdictional Conferences.
17 Therefore, be it resolved that the South Carolina Annual Conference finds encourage-
18 ment in the expressed intents of the Christmas Covenant and Connectional Table legislation,
19 including the creation of Regional Conferences in Africa, Europe, the Philippines, and the
20 U.S., respectively as "we envision a Church that connects globally, engages in mission
21 together, respects contextual ministry settings, celebrates the diversity of God's creation
22 in its many beautiful expressions, and values mutually empowering relationships in order
23 to strengthen our core mission of evangelism, discipleship, and social witness for the
24 transformation of the world;"¹ and
25 Be it further resolved that the South Carolina Annual Conference recognizes with
26 utmost respect and gratitude the leadership of our Central Conferences in the creation
27 and furtherance of the Christmas Covenant as well the Connectional Table's future visioning
28 on behalf of our worldwide fellowship; and
29 Be it further resolved that the South Carolina Annual Conference encourages the
30 Council of Bishops to expedite the process of voting on the constitutional amendments
31 necessary to further the work of the regional conferences legislation, calling special sessions
32 of annual conferences where necessary; and
33 Be it further resolved that in line with the intent of the non-disciplinary petition submitted
34 by the Connectional Table, the South Carolina Annual Conference encourages the Council of
35 Bishops to appoint a 20-25 member Interim Planning Committee on Organization for a US
36 Regional Conference to study and propose to the 2024 general conference the structure and
37 organization of a US Regional Conference. In line with the CT's legislation, this body, upon
38 approval, would organize and plan for the establishment and functioning of a new United
39 States Regional Conference comprising the five jurisdictions of the United States. Committee
40 membership should have a minimum of 3 members of each US jurisdiction, 3 central confer-
41 ence members and shall meet standards of racial and gender diversity. The Committee
42 should recommend a structure for the US Regional Conference including considerations such
43 as its membership, committee structure, meeting time, agency, and function; and
44 Be it further resolved that the South Carolina Annual Conference secretary shall send
45 copies of this resolution to all delegates to General and Jurisdictional Conferences, including
46 alternates, to the Commission on the General Conference, and to the Council of Bishops.
47 Submitted by:
48 South Carolina Reconciling Ministries Network
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50 1 Preamble to "Christmas Covenant" (www.christmascovenant.com/pagecc)
51
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53 **AFFIRMATION OF THE LGBTQIA+ DELEGATES' CALL TO CENTER JUSTICE AND**
54 **EMPOWERMENT FOR ALL PEOPLE IN THE UMC.**
55
56 **A resolution submitted to the 2023 South Carolina Annual Conference.**
57
58 Whereas, in a groundswell response to the passage of harmful legislation at the 2019
59 Special Session of General Conference, Annual Conferences elected LGBTQIA+ clergy and
60 lay persons to be General and Jurisdictional Delegates in record numbers, for the first time
61 empowering LGBTQIA+ delegates to speak and act from our diverse experiences, and

Whereas, the 2019 Special Session of the United Methodist General Conference passed the Traditional Plan, which increased penalties for United Methodists clergy who are LGBTQIA+ and for clergy who support the LGBTQIA+ community through officiating their weddings, and

Whereas, in an attempt to address the divide within The United Methodist Church, an abeyance or moratorium was proposed to the General Conference, referenced below, by the authors of the Protocol of Reconciliation and Grace through Separation, and

Whereas, we understand our call and responsibility as United Methodists to do good, do no harm, and stay in love with God, and

Whereas, we call straight and cisgender allies to do good by using their voice and vote to support, empower, and amplify the voices of the LGBTQIA+ community in The United Methodist Church, and

Whereas, 46 LGBTQIA+ General and Jurisdictional Conference delegates from across all five jurisdictions wrote the original resolution which was historically adopted at all five jurisdictional conferences in November 2022.

Therefore be it resolved that the South Carolina Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church:

1. Calls attention to the LGBTQIA+ delegates' call to justice and empowerment for the LGBTQIA+ community throughout the South Carolina Annual Conference, within and beyond our local churches, districts, departments, centers, and committees;
2. Encourages the consideration of a spirit of the abeyance or moratorium as proposed to the General Conference, as referenced above, in order to foster conversation, authenticity, and deeper relationships with one another in Christ until changes can be made in The United Methodist Book of Discipline;
3. Encourages the Episcopal leadership, cabinet, and extended cabinet of our Annual Conference to guide us into a period of discernment on matters of human sexuality and develop a resource or list of resources for facilitating ongoing conversation that is scripturally, relationally, and scientifically relevant; implementing an ongoing process of reconciliation through grace-filled conversations on human sexuality aimed at hearing stories of faith and resilience from the margins, educating one another and beginning to heal the harm caused by the church to precious human lives and children of God; seeking to engage in welcoming ministry with our LGBTQIA+ siblings; and, fostering a safe environment for all of this to take place, we encourage either not pursuing, holding in abeyance, or resolving in a timely fashion through a process of just resolution any complaints against clergy regarding their sexual orientation or the officiating of weddings of LGBTQIA+ persons;
4. Aspires to become a United Methodist Church in which LGBTQIA+ people will be protected, affirmed, and empowered throughout our life, mission, and ministry together.

Submitted by:

South Carolina Reconciling Ministries Network

1. "Effective immediately upon adjournment of the 2020 General Conference, no complaint proceedings (including, without limitation, a bishop's supervisory response, suspension proceedings, attempts to achieve a just resolution, or referral of a complaint) shall be initiated, and all current or pending complaint proceedings shall be suspended, insofar as the alleged Book of Discipline violation asserted in the complaint is that the respondent is a 'self-avowed practicing homosexual' (however that term may be defined, including, without limitation, living in a same-gender marriage, domestic partnership or civil union); that the respondent has conducted, officiated, performed, celebrated, or blessed a same-gender wedding or other same-gender union; that the respondent has certified, licensed, commissioned, ordained, consecrated, or appointed a 'self-avowed practicing homosexual'; that the respondent has provided 'funds to any gay caucus or group' or used funds 'to promote the acceptance of homosexuality'; or that the respondent has otherwise engaged in conduct that The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church currently states is 'incompatible with Christian teaching' as it pertains to LGBTQ relationships. This moratorium on all new and pending complaint proceedings concerning human sexuality provisions applies not only to charges that are explicitly based on ¶2702.1b, but also to any charge that the same alleged underlying conduct constitutes a chargeable offense under any other provision of the Discipline, including (without limitation) 'immorality' under ¶ 2702.1a; 'disobedience to the order and discipline of The United Methodist Church' under ¶2702.1d; and 'dissemination of doctrines contrary to the established standards of doctrine of The United Methodist Church' under ¶2702.1e. This moratorium is inclusive of

1 charges related to the following paragraphs: ¶161, ¶304.3, ¶310.2, ¶341.6, ¶613.19,
2 ¶806.9, and ¶2702.1b. This moratorium does not apply to charges under any of these
3 provisions in which the underlying alleged actions address a different subject matter, in-
4 cluding but not limited to sexual misconduct, sexual abuse, and sexual harassment. This
5 moratorium shall remain in effect until the close of the first General Conference of The
6 United Methodist Church after other denominations separate. Any complaints pertaining to
7 this paragraph filed during this period shall be held in abeyance, and no time limits shall com-
8 mence until the above-referenced General Conference has concluded."

9 – From the Protocol of Reconciliation and Grace through Separation
10

11 12 **SUPPORTING THE REMOVAL OF DISCRIMINATORY POLICIES**

13 **A resolution submitted to the 2023 South Carolina Annual Conference**

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16 Whereas, a more diverse and fully welcoming UMC is a testament to a more complete
17 image of God, which includes persons of all sexual orientations and gender identities, and

18 Whereas, a more diverse and fully welcoming UMC allows all United Methodists to
19 offer their prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness, as followers of Jesus, to further
20 Christ's mission, and

21 Whereas, by the power of the Holy Spirit, God calls and includes all persons into the life
22 and leadership of the Church, transcending the limitations of human categorization, and

23 Whereas, the current language in the Book of Discipline places limits on Christ's
24 teaching and example of God's universal love, and

25 Whereas, the current language in the Book of Discipline falls short of embodying the
26 spirit of John Wesley's simple rules to do no harm, do all the good we can, and love God, and

27 Whereas, legislative changes to the Book of Discipline would reduce barriers and
28 allow movement toward wider diversity and inclusion in our United Methodist Church.

29 Therefore, be it resolved that the South Carolina Annual Conference longs for the
30 day that discord and dehumanization will cease, and the discriminatory policies and harm-
31 ful language that diminish the evolving understandings of the diversity of the human expe-
32 rience will be silenced for a broader understanding of God's diversity in creating human-
33 kind, we encourage delegates to prayerfully reflect on and consider adopting the following
34 petitions; petitions already submitted and that will be before the voting body of the next
35 General Conference:

36 37 **Petition No: 20730-CB-¶161-G;**

38 Entitled: Revised Social Principles-161 and 162

39 ADCA Vol 2, Sec 1, Page 208

40 Summary: Removes the statement that affirms marriage as only between "one man
41 and one woman." Removes the statement that only affirms "heterosexual" marriage.
42 Removes, "The UMC does not condone the practice of homosexuality and considers
43 this practice incompatible with Christian teaching."
44

45 **Petition No: 20177-FO-¶304.3**

46 Entitled: A Simple Plan #3

47 ADCA Vol 2, Sec 2, Page 624

48 Summary: Removes ¶304.3 which states, "self-avowed practicing homosexuals are not
49 to be certified as candidates, ordained as ministers, or appointed to serve in The United
50 Methodist Church." Also removes the corresponding footnote stating that "self-avowed
51 practicing homosexual is understood to mean that a person openly acknowledges to a
52 bishop, district superintendent, district committee of ordained ministry, Board of Ordained
53 Ministry, or clergy session that the person is a practicing homosexual; or is living in a
54 same-sex marriage, domestic partnership or civil union, or is a person who publicly
55 states she or he is a practicing homosexual."
56

57 **Petition No: 20469-OM-¶341.6**

58 Entitled: A Simple Plan #5

59 ADCA Vol 2, Sec 2, Page 1041

60 Summary: Removes ¶341.6, which states (under unauthorized conduct), "ceremonies
61 that celebrate homosexual unions shall not be conducted by our ministers and shall
62 not be conducted in our churches."