

**Conversation on Church Viability Timeline and Dates of Note  
First United Methodist Church, Oklahoma City**

January 17, 2023

District Superintendent communicates with FUMC leadership to let them know that, prior to any congregational vote relating to disaffiliation, they must first complete a process described in Paragraphs 212/213 of the Book of Discipline, and outlined by the Oklahoma Conference as "Conversations on Church Viability" (CCV).

February 22, 2023

District Superintendent procures agreement from person to lead CCV process.

February 26, 2023

District Superintendent notifies church leadership of CCV conversation #1 set for March 8, 2023. Notification includes introduction of CCV process leader and requests data the church will need to provide for CCV conversation #1.

March 2, 2023

FUMC submits statistics from the Financial Health Questions document.  
FUMC provides additional data as requested.

March 8, 2023

CCV conversation #1 between CCV Team and FUMC leaders.

Content of this conversation:

- a) Explain the purpose and process of CCV, including the needs of the local church the Annual Conference, and the mission field.
- b) Examine the data from the 2022 year-end financial report, the 2022 balance sheet, the financial health questions document, the 212/213 conversation (online form), and other documents as needed.
- c) Seek clarification and determine further information needed in order to complete the assessment.
- d) Go over the timeline; describe information needed for CCV#2; clarify and answer questions.
- e) Set dates for upcoming meetings as necessary.

March 22, 2023

*Bishop Nunn meets with FUMC leaders; 7:00pm-8:30pm.*

[Date]

CCV conversation #2 between CCV Team and FUMC leaders.  
Content of this conversation:



Explore in greater detail the mission field known as downtown Oklahoma City, with special attention to the area surrounding First UMC; More detailed look at the current missional outreach of FUMC.

[Date]

CCV Team completes assessment, issues initial draft of report.

[Date]

CCV conversation #3 between CCV Team and FUMC leaders.

- a) Brief summary by CCV Team of what was heard in Conversations #1 and #2.
- b) Report of analysis as determined by CCV team, including the perspective of the local church and the perspective of the Annual Conference.
- c) Clarifying questions by FUMC leaders.
- d) CCV Team provides options (or recommendation) for FUMC's next steps (\*see below).

[Date]

The CCV Team forwards their assessment and a summary of Conversation #3 to the District Superintendent, Director of Transitional Ministries, Director of Connectional Ministries, and the Oklahoma Conference Trustees.

[Date]

FUMC leaders meet to pray and discern God's will for FUMC going forward.

Options include (but are not limited to):

- a) Continue the disaffiliation process under Paragraph 2553.
  - i) Request that the District Superintendent set a date for a Church Conference at which time a vote on disaffiliation will be taken. Prior to the vote, FUMC leaders share with the congregation the result of the assessment, the CCV's recommendation(s) (if any), and the church's options going forward.
  - ii) Help the congregation understand the timeline and the next steps that various groups in the Conference will be taking.
- b) Discontinue the disaffiliation process and remain a United Methodist Church.
- c) Discontinue the disaffiliation process and proceed under Paragraph 249 in order to close the church.

*September 6, 2023*

*Last date for District Superintendent to hold a Church Conference to vote on disaffiliation in Fall 2023. More detail and helpful information is available at [okumc.org/transitionalministry](http://okumc.org/transitionalministry).*

*late September 2023*

*Conference Trustees publish an official report to the Annual Conference ahead of the Special Called Session (October 13).*

*October 13, 2023*

*Special Called Session of Oklahoma Annual Conference to vote on disaffiliations (by Zoom).*