



Growing disciples of Jesus Christ
through evangelism, worship, prayer,
scripture, service and fellowship.

23 June 2022

Greetings Alliance Family!

Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ! (Phil 1:2).

After years of discussion, research, meeting with denominational leadership, and prayerful consideration, our Church Council, on May 30, 2022, approved a resolution recommending Alliance's disaffiliation from the United Methodist Church, in order to join the Global Methodist Church (GMC). While this is the church council's recommendation, it is the church members who decide the future of Alliance, as illumined by the Holy Spirit. **Your prayers and your vote matter! Please join us on July 10, 2022, at 4:00pm, for this important vote.**

Why Disaffiliate and Join the GMC?

In response to long-standing tensions within our denomination to change doctrine regarding biblical authorityⁱ (see endnotes for examples), we have prayerfully determined that...

- The United Methodist Church fails to uphold and even rebels against its own doctrine and discipline.
- The disunity within the United Methodist denomination is a distraction to our mission of making disciples of Jesus Christ.
- The Global Methodist Church is superbly aligned with our Wesleyan beliefs, discipline and desire for accountability (www.globalmethodist.org).

Why Now?

A gracious window of opportunity has opened. The Central Texas Conference voted almost unanimously to financially support local churches, like Alliance, to disaffiliate with little exit cost, under Paragraph 2553 of the UMC Book of Discipline. There are 91 other UM churches from our conference requesting to disaffiliate this year. Over 1/3 of the churches in our conference are requesting disaffiliation. We are not alone!

What is Next?

The vote to disaffiliate from the UMC and join the Global Methodist Church is July 10, 2022, at 4:00pm, in the sanctuary. To disaffiliate, 2/3 of the Alliance church membership in attendance at the time of the vote must vote for disaffiliation. Rev. Rhodes, our District Superintendent, will preside over the voting. Per official conference guidelines, voting must take place in person, and only full members of Alliance United Methodist Church are permitted to vote. Absentee voting, electronic voting, or voting by proxy are not allowed.

How Can I Learn More?

This vote is an important event in the life of Alliance! Your prayerful discernment as informed by biblical witness is vital to making an informed decision. The following Information Sessions are offered to answer your questions and help you in your discernment:

- **Information Session, Wednesday, June 29, 11:30am-12:30pm. Room 107**
- **Information Session, Wednesday, June 29, 6:00pm-7:00pm. Room 107**
- **Information Session, Sunday, July 3, 12:00pm-1pm. Sanctuary**

See links in endnotes to learn more about why we recommend disaffiliation and go to www.globalmethodist.org to learn more about the GMC.

What Will Change if Vote Passes?

Most of our church family will not notice any changes. Relationships, worship services, classes, generosity, and our love for all people will remain as they are now. The biggest changes will be the removal of the “United” in our name and any “Cross and Flame” insignia. We can keep our UMC hymnals.

What is the Financial Cost with Disaffiliation and Joining the GMC?

Per Paragraph 2553 of the UMC Book of Discipline we must pay the remaining balance of our 2022 Connectional Giving (Apportionment) of \$28,000 and our portion of the Conference Pension Liabilities of \$72,500. Per Mary Patton, our Chair of Finance, “We now have funds to pay the disaffiliation cost and our projected ongoing obligations for this year.” And per the recent conference vote our pension liability will be cut significantly. Praise the Lord! There are no application fees in joining the Global Methodist Church.

Encouragement from the Alliance Church Council

This is an important time for Alliance! Our hope for Alliance is to grow as a Christ-centered, Spirit-filled, Bible-believing church that loves God and all people. As the body of Christ, we are subject to all the frailties of the human condition and the pressures of society. As Paul says, “*All fall short of the glory of God*” (Romans 3:23). At the same time, we are called and commanded to pursue a Biblical standard of holiness, love, and inclusiveness without compromising the holy standard in pursuit of it. As the Lord told the people of God, “*You are to be holy to me because I, the Lord, am holy, and I have set you apart from the nations to be my own*” (Leviticus 20:26). Lord, help us in the name of Christ. Amen!

Church Council

James Thompson (Chair), Becky Terry (SPR Chair), Karen Kaster (Trustees Chair), Mary Patton (Finance Chair), Bob Crane (Treasurer), Kim Cagle (Preschool Chair), Ellen Neff (Lay Leader), Glen Averhoff (Lay Delegate), Jim Cox (Secretary), Vicki Kunz (At-Large), Britt Sturdy (At-Large), Kevin Perry (At-Large), Natalie Walls (At-Large), Faye Colaluca (At-Large), Chris Randall (At-Large)
Bill Killough (Pastor)

ⁱ -Bishop Denies Orthodox Christian Doctrine: <https://theird.org/wp-content/uploads/2003-01-UMA-April.pdf>
-Theological Liberalism and the United Methodist Church’s Decline: <https://firebrandmag.com/articles/theological-liberalism-and-united-methodist-decline?msckid=8eb708f4bd9111ecb333f8f3987f40c0>
-UMC Seminary Embraces Paganism: <https://juicyecumenism.com/2022/02/14/united-methodist-iliff-paganism/>
-Bishop Defiance: [Bishop Plans to Allow Defiance of United Methodist Church Standards - Wesleyan Covenant Association](https://www.wesleyan.org/news/bishop-plans-to-allow-defiance-of-united-methodist-church-standards)
-Election of Gay Bishop: <https://www.umnews.org/en/news/western-jurisdiction-elects-openly-gay-united-methodist-bishop>
-Lack of Integrity of Doctrine & Polity: <https://churchleaders.com/news/303091-umcs-first-openly-gay-bishop-ruled-violation-church-law.html>
-2019 CTC Annual Conference rejection of Traditional Plan (approved doctrine), Journal, p. 281: <https://www.ctcumc.org/files/conference+journal+files/2019+conference+journal/2019+journal.pdf>