

Resolution Approving Departures of Local Churches

WHEREAS, the following churches have had long and proud histories as United Methodist Churches:

Coastal District

<u>Name</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Vote for departure</u>	<u>Vote against departure¹</u>	<u>Percentage approving departure</u>	<u>Total Departure fees</u>	<u>Average attendance</u>
Arco UMC	Glynn	11	0	100%	\$17,169.86	17
Greater Trinity UMC	Camden	12	0	100%	\$14,987.00	10
Horse Stomp UMC	Camden	4	0	100%	\$7,783.23	14
Morgan's Chapel UMC	McIntosh	52	20	72%	\$132,043.63	60
Richmond Hill UMC	Bryan	333	41	89%	\$189,638.60	351
Waverly UMC	Camden	13	0	100%	\$12,093.31	43

North Central District

<u>Name</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Vote for departure</u>	<u>Vote against departure</u>	<u>Percentage approving departure</u>	<u>Total Departure fees</u>	<u>Average attendance</u>
Allentown UMC	Wilkinson	14	4	77.78%	\$17,309.55	25
Arline-Bethel UMC	Johnson	9	0	100%	\$14,807.79	10
Asbury UMC	Wilkinson	5	0	100%	\$8,461.00	8
Bethel UMC	Emanuel	15	0	100%	\$7,350.00	14
Boiling Springs UMC	Laurens	23	0	100%	\$16,469.87	31
Brewton UMC	Laurens	5	0	100%	\$15,905.88	21
Danville UMC	Twiggs	3	0	100%	\$6,042.19	17
Eastman UMC	Dodge	84	4	95.45%	\$106,292.80	87
Gethsemane UMC	Laurens	21	0	100%	\$60,346.17	21
Heritage UMC	Bibb	44	0	100%	\$60,742.56	54
Jeffersonville UMC	Twiggs	7	0	100%	\$30,434.43	8

Lovett UMC	Laurens	2	0	100%	\$12,082.38	18
Martha Bowman UMC	Bibb	275	38	87.8%	\$211,237.34	279
Midway UMC	Treutlen	1	0	100%	\$3,893.00	0
Moore's Chapel UMC	Johnson	4	0	100%	\$4,647.00	3
Northview UMC	Houston	15	1	93.75	\$26,645.98	18
Oak Grove UMC	Dodge	10	0	100%	\$6,033.00	10
Perry UMC	Houston	407	27	93.9%	\$276,522.96	365
Piney Mount UMC	Washington	35	1	97.22%	\$137,837.75	47
Rochelle UMC	Wilcox	22	5	81.4%	\$59,157.25	23
Rockledge UMC	Laurens	8	0	100%	\$12,923.00	9
Rogers UMC	Monroe	23	0	100%	\$33,398.33	19
Sandersville UMC	Washington	168	10	94.3%	\$115,614.65	158
Shurlington UMC	Bibb	15	1	93.75%	\$52,140.01	21
Swift Creek UMC	Bibb	18	1	94.74%	\$52,584.33	30
Thomas Chapel UMC	Laurens	2	0	100%	\$8,847.50	19
Wesley Chapel UMC	Wilkinson	20	0	100%	\$14,998.96	25
Wrightsville First UMC	Johnson	49	9	84.4%	\$130,653.68	60

Northeast District

<u>Name</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Vote for departure</u>	<u>Vote against departure</u>	<u>Percentage approving departure</u>	<u>Total Departure fees</u>	<u>Average attendance</u>
Bethany UMC	Burke	13	0	100%	\$17,155.00	8
Bethesda UMC	Burke	3	0	100%	\$7,551.46	2
Brooklet UMC	Bulloch	225	18	92.59%	\$107,812.43	152
Coleman Chapel UMC	Jefferson	14	2	87.50%	\$18,625.61	10

Fair Haven UMC	Jenkins	38	8	80.85%	\$32,275.99	35
Habersham UMC	Jenkins	23	0	100%	\$19,211.97	25
Hubert UMC	Bulloch	9	0	100%	\$11,714.16	10
Long Pond UMC	Montgomery	4	0	100%	\$6,836.47	4
Lyons First UMC	Toombs	67	14	81.71%	\$183,464.70	66
Mt. Moriah UMC	Jefferson	14	0	100%	\$25,173.40	8
New Beulah UMC	Candler	8	0	100%	\$7,484.00	4
New Hope UMC	Bulloch	25	0	100%	\$31,130.26	25
Payne's Chapel	Bulloch	12	0	100%	\$9,736.96	10
Portal UMC	Bulloch	10	0	100%	\$20,311.00	22
St. John UMC	Jefferson	24	1	96%	\$22,738.40	17
Sylvania UMC	Screven	152	29	84%	\$118,705.57	102
Vidette UMC	Burke	17	0	100%	\$14,000.66	10

Northwest District

<u>Name</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Vote for departure</u>	<u>Vote against departure</u>	<u>Percentage approving departure</u>	<u>Total Departure fees</u>	<u>Average attendance</u>
Bronwood UMC	Terrell	15	0	100%	\$19,477.00	0
Buena Vista UMC	Marion	29	4	87.88%	\$56,635.78	32
Byron UMC	Peach	139	24	85.28%	\$119,747.09	162
Dawson UMC	Terrell	73	0	100%	\$188,858.24	46
Drayton UMC	Dooly	14	0	100%	\$21,377.54	15
Ellerslie UMC	Harris	14	0	100%	\$16,157.20	17
Leslie UMC	Sumter	22	3	88%	\$30,019.60	34
Midland UMC	Muscogee	119	5	95.97%	\$64,200.65	100

Shiloh UMC (Shiloh/Vienna Charge)	Dooly	12	0	100%	\$12,188.62	11
Smithville UMC	Lee	12	0	100%	\$11,421.00	11
St. Mark UMC	Muscogee	137	10	93.20%	\$258,907.64	154
St. Paul UMC	Muscogee	478	57	89.18%	\$462,711.00	380
St. Peter UMC	Muscogee	44	1	95.65%	\$75,660.00	58
Upatoi UMC	Muscogee	67	7	89.33%	\$61,025.73	55
Vienna UMC	Dooly	61	29	67.78%	\$72,440.54	57
The Ridge UMC	Muscogee	166	13	92.74%	\$69,643.57	200
Waverly Hall UMC	Harris	30	0	100%	\$35,604.43	28
Wesley Chapel UMC	Peach	9	0	100%	\$11,953.87	0

South Central District

<u>Name</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Vote for departure</u>	<u>Vote against departure</u>	<u>Percentage approving departure</u>	<u>Total Departure fees</u>	<u>Average attendance</u>
Baxley First UMC	Appling	71	32	68.93%	\$185,516.98	74
Bethel UMC	Appling	14	0	100%	\$22,117.29	15
Bickley UMC	Ware	24	0	100%	\$15,473.13	20
Broxton UMC	Coffee	14	2	77.78%	\$77,290.57	20
Central UMC	Ben Hill	137	51	72%	\$308,104.13	149
Chula UMC	Tift	6	0	100%	\$13,228.67	10
Community UMC	Berrien	16	0	100%	\$27,493.81	18

Dodge's Chapel UMC	Telfair	6	0	100%	\$10,749.00	0
Gilchrist Park UMC	Ware	12	0	100%	\$18,015.94	15
Harding UMC	Tift	7	0	100%	\$17,563.00	10
Hopewell UMC	Appling	24	1	96%	\$21,195.76	23
Jamestown UMC	Ware	9	0	100%	\$25,122.00	9
Live Oak UMC	Atkinson	8	2	80%	\$9,580.26	9
Lumber City UMC	Telfair	22	2	91.67%	\$25,891.00	0
Manor UMC	Ware	21	0	100%	\$9,807.48	27
Martha Memorial UMC	Pierce	6	0	100%	\$8,052.00	0
Mershon UMC	Pierce	5	0	100%	\$6,576.00	0
Midway UMC	Telfair	4	0	100%	\$9,207.00	4
Shiloh UMC	Lowndes	20	1	95.24%	\$22,682.67	20
St. Mark UMC	Coffee	25	1	96.15%	\$31,878.93	46
Sweetwater UMC	Atkinson	8	0	100%	\$9,647.23	9
Tifton First UMC	Tift	350	13	96%	\$275,706.51	218
Waycross UMC	Ware	162	46	77.8%	\$117,529.13	133
West Green UMC	Coffee	21	0	100%	\$12,734.99	20
Winona Park UMC	Ware	30	4	88.24%	\$95,626.62	25

Southwest District

<u>Name</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Vote for departure</u>	<u>Vote against departure</u>	<u>Percentage approving departure</u>	<u>Total Departure fees</u>	<u>Average attendance</u>
Avalon UMC	Dougherty	68	6	91.89%	\$77,463.14	69
Baconton UMC	Mitchell	11	0	100%	\$14,478.00	11
Bainbridge First UMC	Decatur	208	41	83.53%	\$241,433.06	137
Burns Memorial UMC	Thomas	16	5	72.73%	\$18,716.28	28
Cordele UMC	Crisp	328	8	97.33%	\$156,576.05	366
Cordray Community UMC	Calhoun	15	0	100%	\$30,323.48	18
Evelyn UMC	Colquitt	21	0	100%	\$17,362.77	23
Hartsfield UMC	Colquitt	8	0	100%	\$12,410.27	16
Moultrie First UMC	Colquitt	122	34	78.20%	\$124,430.80	101
Pinson Memorial UMC	Worth	39	6 ¹	78%	\$43,471.96	42
Poulan UMC	Worth	13	0 ¹	76.47%	\$27,320.59	20
Quitman UMC	Brooks	69	32	67.65%	\$141,810.67	71

¹ Does not include those present and not voting.

WHEREAS, each of these churches has held a church conference, in compliance with ¶¶ 246.8, 248, and 2549.3 of *The Book of Discipline*, at which at least two-thirds (2/3) of the professing members present at the church conference voted to depart from The United Methodist Church “for reasons of conscience regarding a change in the requirements and provisions of *the Book of Discipline* related to the practice of homosexuality or the ordination or marriage of self-avowed practicing homosexuals as resolved and adopted by the 2019 General Conference, or the actions or inactions of its annual conference related to these issues”; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to ¶ 2501.1 of *The Discipline*, each of these churches holds its real and personal, tangible and intangible property “in trust for The United Methodist Church and subject to the provisions of its Discipline”; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to ¶ 2549.3 of *The Discipline*, each of these churches has voluntarily transferred title to all its real and personal, tangible and intangible property to the Annual Conference Board of Trustees; and

WHEREAS, each of these churches has entered into a departure agreement with the Annual Conference Board of Trustees in accordance with the policy adopted by the Trustees on February 22, 2022, for the purchase and sale of the real and personal property of the church to a new church formed by the members at the price and on the terms set out in the Trustee's policy;

WHEREAS, these church closings and departure agreements must be ratified by the Annual Conference to be effective.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the South Georgia Annual Conference meeting virtually on August 17, 2024, does hereby celebrate the ministries of these congregations through the years by giving all glory to God,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the members of the South Georgia Annual Conference do by an affirmative majority vote concur with the decision of these churches to close and ratify and affirm the departure agreement pursuant to which the Annual Conference Board of Trustees will transfer the properties of these churches to new non-United Methodist Churches formed by the members of these churches.

Rev. Scott Hagan
Dean of the Cabinet
August 17, 2024