

CABINET RESOLUTIONS

INDIANA MOVING POLICY/PRACTICES

As part of the itinerancy system, it is our normal practice that all new appointments begin on July 1 of each year. This involves the sequential moves of clergy into parsonages as they follow each other in the appointment system. To clarify and help facilitate this process, the Cabinet has established the following policies and practices. These shall be shared with clergy and SPRC committees at the time of the take-out and the take-in. It shall be shared both in writing and as part of the conversation.

- A. The last Sunday of June and the first Sunday of July shall be transition Sundays. This means local congregations need to be prepared to cover the pulpit if needed.
- B. All those who are leaving ministry, including those who are retiring, need to vacate the parsonage no later than the third Sunday in June of each year.
- C. All moves shall be completed no later than the third Sunday in July. For Financial Policies related to the moving policies, see the report of the CF&A in the Journal. If you have any questions, please contact the Move Coordinator.
- D. At the time of the take-out and the take-in, the process will be explained.
- E. All congregations will be given 2-3 days between moves to care for parsonage needs. If additional time is needed, it will be accomplished before or after the clergy move, or special arrangements will be the responsibility of the local congregation and clergy.

MOVING INFORMATION

Move Dates – The move dates are determined in consultation with the Move Coordinator. Once the move date has been set, the moving pastor is to proceed with the estimate process.

Estimate Process – The moving clergy must submit the Minister’s Moving Report Form and two (2) binding or guaranteed not to exceed estimates from a licensed and insured mover and indicate the mover they choose. Once the Minister’s Moving Report Form and estimates are received and the mover selected, the Conference will send a letter of payment guarantee for 100% up to or at a maximum 13,000 lbs. and \$3,000 maximum payment for over 13,000 lbs. to the selected moving company.

The moving pastor will receive a copy of the guarantee payment letter. All moves across state lines (incoming/outgoing) will be paid at a maximum of \$3,000. Items that specifically will not be paid for include transport of vehicles, special labor (third- party) for dis/re-assembly of items (beds, desks, audio/TV equipment, etc.)

In the moving estimate, boxes and packing material for up to 13,000 lbs. as well as mattress boxes should be included.

CABINET RESOLUTION FOR CLOSURE OF OAK GROVE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, COLUMBIA CITY, INDIANA

WHEREAS the Oak Grove United Methodist Church of Columbia City, Indiana, located at 4490 W. 200 S in the Northeast District of the Indiana Conference of The United Methodist Church, voted at a Charge

1 Conference held on June 6, 2022, to recommend to Bishop Trimble and the Cabinet of the Indiana
2 Conference of The United Methodist Church the closure of the Oak Grove United Methodist Church, and

3
4 WHEREAS it was agreed that all bills through the date of closure and forty-five (45) days beyond shall be
5 paid from existing funds including the salary and pension of the appointed clergy, the property insurance,
6 and a full tithe to the Indiana Conference of The United Methodist Church and 1% offering to the
7 Northeast District, and

8
9 WHEREAS a complete audit of assets including all property has been accomplished and presented to the
10 District Superintendent,

11
12 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Cabinet of the Indiana Conference of The United Methodist Church
13 support the following:

- 14 1. To affirm the last organized worship was held at Oak Grove United Methodist Church on June
15 26, 2022.
- 16 2. To close the Oak Grove United Methodist Church pursuant to ¶12549 of the *2016 Book of*
17 *Discipline*, effective June 30, 2022.
- 18 3. To authorize the Superintendent of the Northeast District to provide all church
19 membership concerns pursuant to ¶1229 of the *2016 Book of Discipline*.
- 20 4. To disperse assets in the following manner:
 - 21 a. After all final bills are paid the balance in the bank accounts will be
22 transferred to Northeast District Closed Church Fund, Indiana
23 Conference
 - 24 b. All property becomes the property of the Indiana Conference.

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27 **CABINET RESOLUTION FOR CLOSURE OF**
28 **SPICELAND UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, SPICELAND, INDIANA**

29 WHEREAS the Spiceland United Methodist Church of Spiceland, IN, located at PO Box 409, corner of N.
30 2nd Street and Maple Street, Spiceland, IN, 47385 in the East District of the Indiana Conference of The
31 United Methodist Church, vacated the building and notified the East District of their abandonment of the
32 church and property as of July 3, 2022, and

33
34 WHEREAS it was agreed that all bills through the date of closure and forty-five (45) days beyond shall be
35 paid from existing funds including the salary and pension of the appointed clergy, the property insurance,
36 and a full tithe to the Indiana Conference of The United Methodist Church and 1% offering to the East
37 District, and

38
39 WHEREAS no audit was offered, however the Superintendent did a thorough walk through and gathered
40 records and historical items for the archives,

41
42 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Cabinet of the Indiana Conference of The United Methodist Church
43 support the following:

- 44 1. To affirm the last organized worship was held at Spiceland United Methodist Church on July 3,
45 2022.
- 46 2. To close the Spiceland United Methodist Church pursuant to ¶12549 of the 2016 Book of
47 Discipline, effective July 3, 2022, as an abandoned church.
- 48 3. To authorize the Superintendent of the East District to provide for all church membership

1 concerns pursuant to ¶1229 of the 2016 Book of Discipline.

2 4. To disperse assets in the following manner:

- 3 a. Recommend to the Conference trustees that the parsonage be sold to the current (12
- 4 years) tenants for the price of \$50,000. The tenants will need to assume all legal fees and
- 5 any costs associated with separating utilities from the church.
- 6 b. After all final bills are paid the balance in the bank accounts will be transferred to East
- 7 District Closed Church Fund, Indiana Conference
- 8 c. All other property becomes the property of the Indiana Conference.

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11 **CABINET RESOLUTION FOR CLOSURE OF**
12 **TWELVE MILE BETHLEHEM UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, TWELVE MILE, INDIANA**

13 WHEREAS the Bethlehem United Methodist Church of Twelve Mile, IN, located at 6688 E 625 N Twelve
14 Mile, IN 46988 in the Northwest District of the Indiana Conference of The United Methodist Church, has
15 ceased to fulfill the purpose for which it was organized (¶ 201-204), and

16
17 WHEREAS there are no remaining funds for the maintenance of the property as a ‘place of divine worship
18 of the United Methodist Church, and

19
20 WHEREAS a complete audit of assets including all property has been accomplished and presented to the
21 District Superintendent,

22 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Cabinet of the Indiana Conference of The United Methodist Church
23 support the following:

- 24 1. To affirm the last organized worship was held at Bethlehem United Methodist Church on June 26,
- 25 2022
- 26 2. To close the Bethlehem United Methodist Church pursuant to ¶12549.3 of the *2016 Book of*
- 27 *Discipline*, effective July 1, 2022
- 28 3. To authorize the Superintendent of the Northwest District to provide for all church membership
- 29 concerns pursuant to ¶1229 of the *2016 Book of Discipline*. Memberships will be held at Royal
- 30 Center United Methodist Church.
- 31 4. To disperse assets in the following manner:
- 32 a. Designated funds paid as designated
- 33 b. After all final bills are paid, the balance in the bank accounts will be transferred to
- 34 Northwest District Closed Church Fund, Indiana Conference
- 35 c. All property becomes the property of the Indiana Conference.

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38 **CABINET RESOLUTION FOR CLOSURE OF**
39 **FAITH UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, SOUTH BEND, INDIANA**

40 WHEREAS the Faith United Methodist Church of South Bend, Indiana, located at 802 E. Ewing St, South
41 Bend, IN 46613, in the North District of the Indiana Conference of The United Methodist Church, voted at
42 a Charge Conference held on September 7, 2022, to recommend to Bishop Trimble and the Cabinet of the
43 Indiana Conference of The United Methodist Church the closure of the Faith United Methodist Church,
44 and

45
46 WHEREAS it was agreed that all bills through the date of closure and forty-five (45) days beyond shall be
47 paid from existing funds including the salary and pension of the appointed clergy, the property insurance,

1 and a full tithe to the Indiana Conference of The United Methodist Church and 1% offering to the North
2 District for 2022, and

3
4 WHEREAS a complete audit of assets including all property has been accomplished and presented to the
5 Conference Superintendent,

6
7 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Cabinet of the Indiana Conference of The United Methodist Church
8 support the following actions:

- 9 1. To affirm the last organized worship to be held at Faith United Methodist Church on August 28,
10 2022.
- 11 2. To close the Faith United Methodist Church pursuant to ¶12549 of the *2016 Book of Discipline*
12 effective September 30, 2022.
- 13 3. To authorize the Superintendent of the North District to provide all church membership concerns
14 pursuant to ¶1229 of the *2016 Book of Discipline*.
- 15 4. To recommend to the Conference Trustees the sale of South Bend Faith United Methodist
16 Church property to Otoniel Verdugo, 21591 Kern Road, South Bend, IN, 46614 for \$30,000 plus
17 any closing or property transfer and legal fees. (*Conference Trustees have approved this sale.*)
- 18 5. To disperse of all Church Property in the following manner:
 - 19 a. A check issued to the Indiana Annual Conference for the remaining 2022 Conference
20 Tithe for Faith UMC in the amount of \$3,413.00.
 - 21 b. A check issued to the Indiana Annual Conference for the remaining 2022 District Tithe
22 for Faith UMC in the amount of \$343.00.
 - 23 c. A check issued to Broadway Christian Parish UMC in the amount of \$88,751.19.
 - 24 d. A check issued to Missionary Ken Vance in the amount of \$20,000.
 - 25 e. A check issued to Hope Ministries in the amount of \$7,000.
 - 26 f. A check issued to Bashor Children’s Home in the amount of \$5,000.
 - 27 g. A check issued to CROP Walk in St. Joseph County in the amount of \$8,000.
 - 28 h. A check issued to Red Bird Mission in the amount of \$8,000.
 - 29 i. A check issued to St. Margaret’s House in the amount of \$5,000.
 - 30 j. A check issued to the YWCA of South Bend in the amount of \$2,500.
 - 31 k. A check issued to the LGBTQ Center of South Bend in the amount of \$2,500.
 - 32 l. A check issued to the Food Bank of Northern Indiana in the amount of \$5,000.
 - 33 m. A check issued to Habitat for Humanity in the amount of \$2,000.
 - 34 n. A check issued to St. Jude’s Hospital in the amount of \$5,000.
 - 35 o. A check issued to Camp Adventure in the Indiana Conference of The United Methodist
36 Church in the amount of \$4,000.
 - 37 p. After all final bills are paid the balance in the bank accounts are transferred to North
38 District, Indiana Conference Closed Church Fund.
 - 39 q. All property becomes the property of the Indiana Conference.

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42 **CABINET RESOLUTION FOR CLOSURE OF**
43 **WOLCOTT UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, WOLCOTT, INDIANA**

44 WHEREAS the WOLCOTT United Methodist Church of WOLCOTT, IN, located at 301-305 Range Street,
45 Wolcott, IN 47995 in the Northwest District of the Indiana Conference of the United Methodist Church
46 has ceased to operate as a “society of believers...within The United Methodist Church and subject to its
47 Discipline” (¶1203), and

1 WHEREAS the WOLCOTT United Methodist Church property “is no longer used, kept, or maintained by its
2 membership as a place of divine worship of The United Methodist Church” ¶2549.3(b)

3
4 WHEREAS the Northwest District Board of Church locations has met on November 9, 2022 and declare
5 that ‘exigent circumstances exist that require immediate protection of the local church’s property, for the
6 benefit of the denomination ¶2549.3(b)

7
8 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Bishop and Cabinet of the Indiana Conference of The United
9 Methodist Church close the Wolcott United Methodist Church effective November 15, 2022, with the
10 following steps taken.

- 11 1. All property immediately becomes the property of the Indiana Annual Conference.
- 12 2. The Superintendent of the Northwest District will transfer all memberships to Monticello United
13 Methodist Church.
- 14 3. To disperse assets in the following manner:
 - 15 a. After all final bills are paid the balance in the bank accounts will be transferred to
16 Northwest District Closed Church Fund, Indiana Conference

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19 **CABINET RESOLUTION FOR CLOSURE OF
20 LAKE CICOTT UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, LAKE CICOTT, INDIANA**

21 WHEREAS the LAKE CICOTT United Methodist Church, located at 8042 West Church Street, Lake Cicott, IN
22 47995 in the Northwest District of the Indiana Conference of the United Methodist Church has ceased to
23 operate as a “society of believers...within The United Methodist Church and subject to its *Discipline*”
24 (*¶203*), and

25
26 WHEREAS the Lake Cicott United Methodist Church property “is no longer used, kept, or maintained by
27 its membership as a place of divine worship of The United Methodist Church” ¶2549.3(b) and

28
29 WHEREAS the Northwest District Board of Church locations has met on November 9, 2022 and declare
30 that ‘exigent circumstances exist that require immediate protection of the local church’s property, for the
31 benefit of the denomination’ ¶2549.3(b)

32
33 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Bishop and Cabinet of the Indiana Conference of The United
34 Methodist Church close the Lake Cicott United Methodist Church effective November 15, 2022, with the
35 following steps taken.

- 36 1. All property immediately becomes the property of the Indiana Annual Conference.
- 37 2. The Superintendent of the Northwest District will transfer all memberships to Monticello United
38 Methodist Church.
- 39 3. To disperse assets in the following manner:
 - 40 a. After all final bills are paid the balance in the bank accounts will be transferred to
41 Northwest District Closed Church Fund, Indiana Conference

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44 **CABINET RESOLUTION FOR CLOSURE OF
45 MONROVIA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, MONROVIA, INDIANA**

46 WHEREAS the Monrovia United Methodist Church of Monrovia, Indiana, located at 60 South Church
47 Street, Monrovia, IN 46157-1033 in the Central District of the Indiana Conference of The United
48 Methodist Church, voted at a Special Called Charge Conference held on November 13, 2022, to

1 recommend to Bishop Trimble and The Cabinet of the Indiana Conference of The United Methodist
2 Church the closure of the Monrovia United Methodist Church, and

3
4 WHEREAS it was agreed that all bills through the date of discontinuance and forty-five (45) days beyond
5 shall be paid from existing funds, and the property insurance, and

6
7 WHEREAS a complete audit of assets, including all property, will be completed within the forty-five (45)
8 days after the closure and presented to the District Superintendent,

9
10 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Cabinet of the Indiana Conference of the United Methodist Church
11 support the following actions:

- 12 1. To affirm the last organized worship to be held as Monrovia United Methodist Church on
13 December 25, 2022.
- 14 2. To close the Monrovia United Methodist Church pursuant to ¶ 2549 of the 2016 Book of
15 Discipline effective December 31, 2022.
- 16 3. To authorize the Conference (District) Superintendent of the Central District to provide all church
17 membership concerns pursuant to ¶ 229 of the 2016 Book of Discipline.
- 18 4. After all final bills are paid, the balance in the bank accounts is transferred to Central District
19 Closed Church Funds, Indiana Annual Conference.
- 20 5. Upon the effective date of closure, all property becomes the property of the Indiana Annual
21 Conference Board of Trustees.

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24 **CABINET RESOLUTION FOR CLOSURE OF**
25 **TRINITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH FRANKFORT, INDIANA**

26 WHEREAS the Trinity United Methodist Church of Frankfort, Indiana, located at 806 N Columbia St,
27 Frankfort, IN 46041 in the North Central District of the Indiana Conference of The United Methodist
28 Church, voted at a Charge Conference held on November 20, 2022, to recommend to Bishop Trimble and
29 the Cabinet of the Indiana Conference of The United Methodist Church the closure of the Trinity United
30 Methodist Church, and

31
32 WHEREAS it was agreed that all bills through the date of closure and forty-five (45) days beyond shall be
33 paid from existing funds and applicable trusts, if sufficient residue exists, including the 2022 fourth
34 quarter tax withholding remittances due in January of 2023, first quarter property insurance for 2023,
35 utilities, and a full tithe to the Indiana Conference of The United Methodist Church and 1% offering to the
36 North Central District for 2022, and

37
38 WHEREAS the deeds of the church building and church parking lot, along with the F. Dewayne Gunyon
39 “Last Will and Testament” and the Frank A Lamphier “Last Will and Testament,” have been presented to
40 the Conference Superintendent,

41
42 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Cabinet of the Indiana Conference of The United Methodist Church
43 support the following actions:

- 44 1. To confirm that the last organized worship service was held at Trinity United Methodist Church
45 on Sunday, September 18, 2022.
- 46 2. To close the Trinity United Methodist Church pursuant to ¶ 2549 of the 2016 Book of Discipline
47 effective December 1, 2022.
- 48 3. To authorize the Superintendent of the North Central District to provide all church membership

1 concerns pursuant to ¶ 229 of the 2016 Book of Discipline, to the Frankfort St Matthew United
2 Methodist Church.

- 3 4. To disperse of all Church Property in the following manner:
- 4 a. The Frank A Lamphier Trust per will directives and/or to the Indiana Conference.
 - 5 b. The F. Dewayne Gunyon Trust per will directives and/or to the Indiana Conference.
 - 6 c. After as many final bills are paid through January 2023, as checking balance and trusts
7 allow, any remaining residue and/or obligation for payment, will be transferred to the
8 Indiana Conference.
 - 9 d. All property becomes the property of the Indiana Conference and will be transferred to
10 Frankfort St. Matthews UMC for a new ministry as proposed and supported by the North
11 Central Conference Superintendent.

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14 **CABINET RESOLUTION FOR CLOSURE OF**
15 **HICKORY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH SULLIVAN, INDIANA**

16 WHEREAS the Hickory United Methodist Church of Sullivan, Indiana, located at 5906 County Road 200 SE,
17 Sullivan, IN 47882 in the West District of the Indiana Conference of The United Methodist Church, voted
18 at a Charge Conference held on January 8, 2023, to recommend to Bishop Trimble and the Cabinet of the
19 Indiana Conference of The United Methodist Church the closure of the Hickory United Methodist Church,
20 and

21
22 WHEREAS it was agreed that all bills through the date of closure and forty-five (45) days beyond shall be
23 paid from existing funds including the salary and pension of the appointed clergy, the property insurance,
24 and a full tithe to the Indiana Conference of The United Methodist Church and 0% offering to the WEST
25 District, and

26 WHEREAS a complete audit of assets including all property has been accomplished and presented to the
27 Conference Superintendent,

28
29 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Cabinet of the Indiana Conference of The United Methodist Church
30 support the following:

- 31 1. To affirm the last organized worship was held at Hickory United Methodist Church on January 29,
32 2023.
- 33 2. To close the Hickory United Methodist Church pursuant to ¶2549 of the 2016 Book of Discipline,
34 effective January 31, 2023
- 35 3. To authorize the Superintendent of the West District to provide all church membership concerns
36 pursuant to ¶229 of the 2016 Book of Discipline.
- 37 4. To disperse assets in the following manner:
- 38 a. A check issued in the amount of \$15,000 to the Indiana Annual Conference for the sale of
39 the property (5906 County Road 200 SE, Sullivan, IN 47882) becomes the property of
40 Hickory Community Church, Inc. (*Conference Trustees have approved this sale*)
 - 41 b. A check issued in the amount of \$500.00 to the Indiana Annual Conference for the legal
42 deed transfer expenses.

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45 **CABINET RESOLUTION FOR CLOSURE OF**
46 **PILOT KNOB UNITED METHODIST CHURCH MILLTOWN, INDIANA**

47 WHEREAS the Pilot Knob United Methodist Church of Milltown, IN, located at 6486 E Pilot Knob Rd,
48 Milltown, IN 47145 in the South District of the Indiana Conference of The United Methodist Church, voted

1 at a Charge Conference held on August 16, 2022, to recommend to Bishop Trimble and the Cabinet of the
2 Indiana Conference of The United Methodist Church the closure of the Pilot Knob United Methodist
3 Church, and

4
5 WHEREAS it was agreed that all bills through the date of closure and forty-five (45) days beyond shall be
6 paid from existing funds including the salary and pension of the appointed clergy and the property
7 insurance, and

8
9 WHEREAS a complete audit of assets including all property has been accomplished and presented to the
10 Conference Superintendent,

11
12 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Cabinet of the Indiana Conference of The United Methodist Church
13 support the following:

- 14 1. To affirm the last organized worship was held at Pilot Knob United Methodist Church on Aug 14,
15 2022
 - 16 2. To close the Pilot Knob United Methodist Church pursuant to ¶2549 of the 2016 Book of
17 Discipline, effective August 31, 2022.
 - 18 3. To authorize the Superintendent of the South District to provide all church membership concerns
19 pursuant to ¶1229 of the 2016 Book of Discipline.
 - 20 4. To disperse assets in the following manner:
 - 21 a. After all final bills are paid the balance in the bank accounts will be transferred to South
22 District Closed Church Fund, Indiana Conference
 - 23 b. All property becomes the property of the Indiana Conference.
- 24
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26 **CABINET RESOLUTION FOR CLOSURE OF**
27 **CRAWFORD CONSOLIDATED UNITED METHODIST CHURCH LEAVENWORTH, INDIANA**

28 WHEREAS the Crawford Consolidated United Methodist Church of Leavenworth, IN, located at 8851 S
29 Indian Ridge Rd, Leavenworth, IN 47137-8224 in the South District of the Indiana Conference of The
30 United Methodist Church, voted at a Charge Conference held on August 16, 2022, to recommend to
31 Bishop Trimble and the Cabinet of the Indiana Conference of The United Methodist Church the closure of
32 the Crawford Consolidated United Methodist Church, and

33
34 WHEREAS it was agreed that all bills through the date of closure and forty-five (45) days beyond shall be
35 paid from existing funds including the salary and pension of the appointed clergy and the property
36 insurance, and

37
38 WHEREAS a complete audit of assets including all property has been accomplished and presented to the
39 Conference Superintendent,

40
41 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Cabinet of the Indiana Conference of The United Methodist Church
42 support the following:

- 43 1. To affirm the last organized worship was held at Crawford Consolidated United Methodist Church
44 on Aug 14, 2022.
- 45 2. To close the Crawford Consolidated United Methodist Church pursuant to ¶2549 of the 2016
46 Book of Discipline, effective August 31, 2022.

- 1 3. To authorize the Superintendent of the South District to provide all church membership concerns
2 pursuant to ¶229 of the 2016 Book of Discipline.
- 3 4. To disperse assets in the following manner:
 - 4 a. After all final bills are paid the balance in the bank accounts will be transferred to South
5 District Closed Church Fund, Indiana Conference
 - 6 b. All property becomes the property of the Indiana Conference.

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9 **CABINET RESOLUTION FOR CLOSURE OF COVINGTON SALEM UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, COVINGTON,
10 INDIANA**

11 WHEREAS the Covington Salem United Methodist Church, located at 1651 W Salem Church Road,
12 Covington, IN 47932, in the Northwest District of the Indiana Conference of the United Methodist Church
13 has ceased to operate as a “society of believers...within The United Methodist Church and subject to its
14 *Discipline*” (¶203), and

15
16 WHEREAS the Covington Salem United Methodist Church property “is no longer used, kept, or maintained
17 by its membership as a place of divine worship of The United Methodist Church” ¶2549.3(b) and

18
19 WHEREAS the Northwest District Board of Church locations has met on January 23, 2023 and declare that
20 ‘exigent circumstances exist that require immediate protection of the local church’s property, for the
21 benefit of the denomination’ ¶2549.3(b)

22
23 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Bishop and Cabinet of the Indiana Conference of The United
24 Methodist Church close the Covington Salem United Methodist Church effective February 1, 2023, with
25 the following steps taken.

- 26 1. All property immediately becomes the property of the Indiana Annual Conference.
- 27 2. The Superintendent of the Northwest District will transfer all memberships to Stidham United
28 Methodist Church.
- 29 3. To disperse assets in the following manner:
 - 30 a. After all final bills are paid the balance in the bank accounts will be transferred to
31 Northwest District Closed Church Fund, Indiana Conference

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34 **CABINET RESOLUTION FOR CLOSURE OF
35 ANDREWS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH ANDREWS, INDIANA**

36 WHEREAS the Andrews United Methodist Church of Andrews, IN, located at 39 W McKeever St, Andrews
37 IN 46702 in the Northeast District of the Indiana Conference of The United Methodist Church, voted at a
38 Charge Conference held on November 1, 2022, to recommend to Bishop Trimble and the Cabinet of the
39 Indiana Conference of The United Methodist Church the closure of the Andrews United Methodist
40 Church, and

41
42 WHEREAS it was agreed that all bills through the date of closure and forty-five (45) days beyond shall be
43 paid from existing funds including the salary and pension of the appointed clergy, the property insurance,
44 and a full tithe to the Indiana Conference of The United Methodist Church and 1 % offering to the
45 Northeast District, and

1 WHEREAS a complete audit of assets including all property has been accomplished and presented to the
2 Conference Superintendent,

3
4 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Cabinet of the Indiana Conference of The United Methodist Church
5 support the following:

- 6 1. To affirm the last organized worship was held at Andrews United Methodist Church on October
7 30, 2022.
 - 8 2. To close the Andrews United Methodist Church pursuant to ¶2549 of the 2016 Book of Discipline,
9 effective November 1, 2022.
 - 10 3. To authorize the Superintendent of the Northeast District to provide for all church membership
11 concerns pursuant to ¶229 of the 2016 Book of Discipline.
 - 12 4. To disperse assets in the following manner:
 - 13 a. See renter agreement.
 - 14 b. After all final bills are paid the balance in the bank accounts will be transferred to
15 Northeast District Closed Church Fund, Indiana Conference.
 - 16 c. All property becomes the property of the Indiana Conference.
- 17
18

19 **CABINET RESOLUTION FOR THE CLOSURE OF**
20 **BURNEY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH BURNEY, INDIANA**

21 WHEREAS the Burney United Methodist Church of Burney, IN, located at 1050 S County Road 850 W
22 Burney, IN 47240 in the Southeast District of the Indiana Conference of The United Methodist Church,
23 voted at a Charge Conference held on December 4, 2022, to recommend to Bishop Trimble and the
24 Cabinet of the Indiana Conference of The United Methodist Church the closure of the Burney United
25 Methodist Church, and

26
27 WHEREAS it was agreed that all bills through the date of closure and forty-five (45) days beyond shall be
28 paid from existing funds including the salary and pension of the appointed clergy, the property insurance,
29 and a full tithe to the Indiana Conference of The United Methodist Church and 1% offering to the
30 Southeast District, and

31
32 WHEREAS a complete audit of assets including all property has been accomplished and presented to the
33 Conference Superintendent,

34
35 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Cabinet of the Indiana Conference of The United Methodist Church
36 support the following:

- 37 1. To affirm the last organized worship was held at Burney United Methodist Church on October 30,
38 2022.
- 39 2. To close the Burney United Methodist Church pursuant to ¶2549 of the 2016 Book of Discipline,
40 effective December 4, 2022.
- 41 3. To authorize the Superintendent of the Southeast District to provide for all church membership
42 concerns pursuant to ¶229 of the 2016 Book of Discipline.
- 43 4. To disperse assets in the following manner:
 - 44 a. After all final bills are paid the balance in the bank accounts will be transferred to Southeast
45 District Closed Church Fund, Indiana Conference.
 - 46 b. All property becomes the property of the Indiana Conference.
- 47 5. The Burney Volunteer Fire Department be offered first option to purchase the property in the
48 event of sale.

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2 **CABINET RESOLUTION FOR CLOSURE OF**
3 **EVANSVILLE ST. JOHN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH ST. JOHN, INDIANA**

4 WHEREAS the Evansville St. John United Methodist Church, located at 1900 N Fulton Ave, Evansville, IN
5 47710 in the Southwest District of the Indiana Conference of The United Methodist Church, voted at a
6 Charge Conference held on February 8, 2023, to recommend to Bishop Trimble and the Cabinet of the
7 Indiana Conference of The United Methodist Church the closure of the Evansville St. John United
8 Methodist Church, and
9

10 WHEREAS it was agreed that all bills through the date of closure and forty-five (45) days beyond shall be
11 paid from existing funds, and
12

13 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Cabinet of the Indiana Conference of The United Methodist Church
14 support the following:

- 15 1. To affirm the last organized worship was held at St. John United Methodist Church on February 5,
16 2023.
- 17 2. To close the Evansville St. John United Methodist Church pursuant to ¶2549 of the 2016 Book of
18 Discipline, effective February 8, 2023.
- 19 3. To authorize the Superintendent of the Southwest District to provide all church membership
20 concerns pursuant to ¶1229 of the 2016 Book of Discipline.
- 21 4. To disperse assets in the following manner:
22 a. After all final bills are paid any remaining balance in the bank accounts will be transferred
23 to Southwest District Closed Church Fund, Indiana Conference
- 24 5. To sell the church, lot, and parsonage to The Rock Global Ministries (PO Box 14414, Evansville, IN
25 47728) for \$510.00, payable to the Indiana Conference of the United Methodist Church.
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28 **CABINET RESOLUTION FOR CLOSURE OF**
29 **WAVELAND COVENANT UNITED METHODIST CHURCH WAVELAND, INDIANA**

30 WHEREAS the Waveland Covenant United Methodist Church of Waveland, Indiana, located at 403 E
31 Green Street, Waveland, IN 47989 in the West District of the Indiana Conference of The United Methodist
32 Church, voted at a Charge Conference (with the last remaining member) held on March 31, 2023, to
33 recommend to Bishop Trimble and the Cabinet of the Indiana Conference of The United Methodist
34 Church the closure of the Waveland Covenant United Methodist Church, and
35

36 WHEREAS it was agreed that all bills through the date of closure and forty-five (45) days beyond shall be
37 paid from existing funds including the salary and pension of the appointed clergy, the property insurance,
38 and a full payment for outstanding tithe to the Indiana Conference of The United Methodist Church and
39 any outstanding District Tithe to the West District, and
40

41 WHEREAS a complete audit of assets including all property has been accomplished and presented to the
42 Conference Superintendent,
43

44 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Cabinet of the Indiana Conference of The United Methodist Church
45 support the following:

- 46 1. To affirm the last organized worship was held at Waveland Covenant United Methodist Church on
47 March 31, 2023 (a time of prayer with the last remaining member).
- 48 2. To close the Waveland Covenant United Methodist Church pursuant to ¶2549 of the 2016 Book

1 of Discipline, effective March 31, 2023.

- 2 3. To authorize the Superintendent of the West District to provide all church membership concerns
3 pursuant to ¶229 of the 2016 Book of Discipline.
4 4. To disperse assets in the following manner:
5 a. A check issued in the amount of \$2,500 to the Indiana Annual Conference for the
6 outstanding Conference Tithe for 2020, 2021, 2022, and remaining of 2023 (Check
7 #3576)
8 b. A check issued in the amount of \$2,000 to the Indiana Annual Conference for the
9 outstanding District Tithe for 2020, 2021, 2022, and remaining of 2023 (Check #3577)
10 c. A check issued in the amount of \$1.00 to the Indiana Annual Conference for the sale of
11 the property (403 E Green Street, Waveland, IN 47989) becomes the property of
12 Waveland Christians in Action. (Conference Trustees have approved this sale)
13 d. A check issued from Waveland Christians in Action in the amount of \$500.00 to the
14 Indiana Annual Conference for the legal deed transfer expenses.
15
16

17 **CABINET RESOLUTION FOR CLOSURE OF**
18 **DEPUTY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH DEPUTY, INDIANA**

19 WHEREAS the Deputy United Methodist Church of Deputy, IN, located at 14266 W Mulberry St, Deputy,
20 IN 47230 in the Southeast District of the Indiana Conference of The United Methodist Church, voted at a
21 Charge Conference held on March 6, 2023, to recommend to Bishop Trimble and the Cabinet of the
22 Indiana Conference of The United Methodist Church the closure of the Deputy United Methodist Church,
23 and
24

25 WHEREAS it was agreed that all bills through the date of closure and forty-five (45) days beyond shall be
26 paid from existing funds including the salary and pension of the appointed clergy, the property insurance,
27 and
28

29 WHEREAS a complete audit of assets including all property has been accomplished and presented to the
30 Conference Superintendent,
31

32 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Cabinet of the Indiana Conference of The United Methodist Church
33 support the following:

- 34 1. To affirm the last organized worship was held at Deputy United Methodist Church on November
35 6, 2022.
36 2. To close the Deputy United Methodist Church pursuant to ¶2549 of the 2016 Book of Discipline,
37 effective March 6, 2023.
38 3. To authorize the Superintendent of the Southeast District to provide all church membership
39 concerns pursuant to ¶229 of the 2016 Book of Discipline.
40 4. To disperse assets in the following manner:
41 a. Regarding Parcels #1 & 2: the Church building, Education Building, and yard: transfer
42 ownership to the Indiana Landmarks organization under the understanding that they
43 would place historic/architectural covenants on the buildings, to preserve and protect
44 this important local landmark, and award-winning restoration.
45 b. Regarding Parcels #3 & 4: the c. 1900 Doctor Robertson's Office and yard: that they be
46 reunited with the "Doc. Robertson property" now owned by David and Diedre Cart, with
47 the understanding that the building will be preserved. (The Church received the property
48 after the death of Doc Robertson's daughter and separated the building before selling

- 1 the house, to insure the office’s long-term survival).
- 2 c. Regarding Parcels #5 & 6: the Wiggam and Carmel Cemeteries. there is no money
- 3 associated with either cemetery; the Jefferson County Cemetery Board has assumed the
- 4 care of the two cemeteries. Therefore, we support the County’s decision to care for the
- 5 two cemeteries.
- 6 d. After all final bills are paid the balance in the bank accounts will be transferred to
- 7 Southeast District Closed Church Fund, Indiana Conference.
- 8 e. The Southeast District will care for any members that have not transferred membership.
- 9
- 10

11 **CABINET RESOLUTION FOR CLOSURE OF**

12 **POINT ISABEL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH POINT ISABEL, INDIANA**

13 WHEREAS the Point Isabel United Methodist Church of Point Isabel Indiana, located in the North Central

14 District of the Indiana Conference of The United Methodist Church, voted at a Charge Conference held on

15 April 18, 2023 to recommend to Bishop Trimble and the Cabinet of the Indiana Conference of The United

16 Methodist Church the closure of the Point Isabel United Methodist Church, and

17

18 WHEREAS it was agreed that all bills through the date of closure and forty-five (45) days beyond shall be

19 paid from existing funds including the salary and pension of the appointed clergy, the property insurance,

20 and a full tithe to the Indiana Conference of The United Methodist Church and 1% offering to the North

21 Central District for 2023, and

22

23 WHEREAS a complete audit of assets including all property has been accomplished and presented to the

24 Conference Superintendent,

25

26 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Cabinet of the Indiana Conference of The United Methodist Church

27 support the following actions:

- 28 1. To affirm the last organized worship to be held at Point Isabel United Methodist Church on April
- 29 30, 2023.
- 30 2. To close the Point Isabel United Methodist Church pursuant to ¶ 2549 of the 2016 Book of
- 31 Discipline effective May 1, 2023.
- 32 3. To authorize the Superintendent of the North Central District to provide all church membership
- 33 concerns pursuant to ¶ 229 of the 2016 Book of Discipline
- 34 4. To disperse of all Church Property in the following manner:
- 35 a. \$16,318.08 (Insurance money in the bank) to North Central District Indiana Conference
- 36 for use specifically on missions and ministry in Grant County United Methodist Churches.
- 37 b. Any other insurance money pending payment to be mailed to Indiana Conference North
- 38 Central District with a memo Point Isabel to be used within Grant County missions and
- 39 ministries of the United Methodist Church.
- 40 c. After all final bills are paid the balance in the bank accounts are transferred to North
- 41 Central District, Indiana Conference to help pay utilities while building is being sold or
- 42 donated.
- 43 d. Request the Conference Trustee that the property be sold at cheaper price \$1000 or
- 44 donated to Point Isabel Trustee to be used in providing life changing events in the Point
- 45 Isabel community.
- 46
- 47
- 48

1 **CABINET RESOLUTION FOR CLOSURE OF**
2 **WEAVER CHAPEL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH WEST LAFAYETTE, INDIANA**

3 WHEREAS the Weaver Chapel United Methodist Church of West Lafayette, IN, located at 4100 Jackson
4 Hwy, West Lafayette, IN 47906-5121 in the Northwest District of the Indiana Conference of The United
5 Methodist Church has ceased to operate as a United Methodist Church to Paragraph 2549.2,

6
7 We therefore recommend to Bishop Trimble and the Cabinet of the Indiana Conference of The United
8 Methodist Church the closure of the Weaver Chapel United Methodist Church, and

9
10 WHEREAS it was agreed that all bills through the date of closure and forty-five (45) days beyond shall be
11 paid from existing funds, and

12
13 WHEREAS a complete audit of assets including all property has been accomplished and presented to the
14 Conference Superintendent,

15
16 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Cabinet of the Indiana Conference of The United Methodist Church
17 support the following:

- 18 1. To affirm the last organized worship was held at Weaver Chapel United Methodist Church on May
19 7, 2023.
- 20 2. To close the Weaver Chapel United Methodist Church pursuant to ¶2549 of the 2016 Book of
21 Discipline, effective May 15, 2023.
- 22 3. To authorize the Superintendent of the Northwest District to provide for all church membership
23 concerns pursuant to ¶229 of the 2016 Book of Discipline.
- 24 4. To disperse assets in the following manner:
 - 25 a. All designated offerings will be disbursed by June 30, 2023 by the Weaver Chapel United
26 Methodist Church finance committee.
 - 27 b. Property to be sold for \$8000 to the Weaver Chapel Community Foundation.
 - 28 c. A real estate transaction fee of \$500 will be paid by the church to INUMC.
 - 29 d. After all final bills are paid the balance in the bank accounts will be transferred to
30 Northwest District Closed Church Fund, Indiana Conference.

31
32
33 **Charge Changes**

34 ***Be it further resolved:***

35 that the name of Renewed Life Church be changed back to First United Methodist Church of Gas
36 City, IN, effective April 18, 2023.

37 that the charge of Rush Branch United Methodist Church and North Vernon Ebenezer United
38 Methodist be dissolved, effective September 1, 2022.

39 that French Lick United Methodist Church be changed back to its original name "Mt. Lebanon
40 United Methodist Church, effective June 8, 2022.

41 that Prairie City United Methodist Church be added to the Brazil Circuit, effective September 1,
42 2022.

43
44 **Church Status Changes,**

45 ***Be it further resolved:***

46 that Indianapolis Faith United Methodist Church become less than full time, effective January 1,
47 2023.

48 that Gateway Community Church of Fortville United Methodist Church become less than full

1 time, effective January 1, 2023.
2 that West Point United Methodist Church (Northwest District) become less than full time,
3 effective November 1, 2022.
4 that Flora United Methodist Church become less than full time, effective July 1, 2023.
5 that Seymour Trinity United Methodist Church become less than full time, effective July 1,
6 2023.
7 that Claypool United Methodist Church become less than full time, effective July 1, 2023.
8 that Culver Wesley United Methodist Church become less than full time, effective December 1,
9 2022.
10 that Fairmount United Methodist Church become less than full time, effective July 1, 2023.
11 that South Bend Evangel Heights United Methodist Church become less than full time, effective
12 Feb. 1, 2023.
13 that Tell City First United Methodist Church become less than full time, effective March 1, 2023.
14 that Evansville Salem United Methodist Church become less than full time, effective July 1,
15 2023.
16 that Hanna United Methodist Church become less than full time, effective Feb. 1, 2023.
17 that Fort Wayne Faith United Methodist Church become full time, effective July 1, 2023.
18 that Elkhart Jamestown United Methodist Church become less than full time, effective July 1,
19 2023.
20 that Bremen First United Methodist Church become full time, effective July 1, 2023.
21 that the Front Porch Cooperative Parish be dissolved, effective April 1, 2023.
22 that the Sullivan Methodist Connection Circuit be created, effective May 1, 2023.
23 that Peru Parkview United Methodist Church become less than full time, effective July 1, 2023.
24 that Argos United Methodist Church become less than full time, effective July 1, 2023.
25 that Fairmount United Methodist Church become less than full time, effective July 1, 2023.
26 that Desoto United Methodist Church become less than full time, effective July 1, 2023.
27 that the Community of Hope United Methodist Church and Covenant Partners United Methodist
28 Church for the CHCP Circuit be created, effective July 1, 2023.
29 that Remington United Methodist Church become less than full time, effective July 1, 2023.
30 that Spencer United Methodist Church become less than full time, effective July 1, 2022.
31 that Lafayette Grace United Methodist Church become less than full time, effective February 1,
32 2023.
33 that Lafayette Grace United Methodist Church become full time, effective July 1, 2023.
34 that the 952 Circuit be dissolved, effective June 30, 2023.
35 that Shelbyville First United Methodist Church become full time, effective July 1, 2023.
36 that Akron United Methodist Church become part time, effective July 1, 2023.
37 that the Sullivan Methodist Connection Circuit, which encompasses Sullivan UMC, Mt Calvary UMC and
38 Kingsley UMC, be created, effective May 1, 2023.

39
40 **District Changes**

41 ***Be it further resolved:***

42 that DeMotte United Methodist Church be moved to the Northwest District, effective Jan. 1,
43 2023.

44
45 **Pastoral Positions**

46 ***Be it further resolved:***

47 that a part-time position be created, "District Specialist: Project Manager," for the Northeast
48 District, effective September 1, 2022.

1 that an associate pastor position be created at Old Bethel United Methodist Church, effective
2 January 1, 2023.
3 that the associate pastor position at Meridian Street United Methodist Church become less than
4 full time, effective March 31, 2023.
5 that a part time associate pastor position be created at Fort Wayne Faith United Methodist
6 Church effective March 1, 2023.
7 that the associate pastor position at Bremen First United Methodist Church be eliminated,
8 effective April 1, 2023.
9 that a part time associate pastor position be created at Michigan City First United Methodist
10 Church, effective April 1, 2023.
11 that the sixth associate pastor position be created at Indianapolis St. Luke’s United Methodist
12 Church, effective June 1, 2023.
13 that a part time associate pastor position be created at Washington Christ United Methodist
14 Church, effective July 1, 2023.
15 that a part time Associate District Superintendent position for the Northwest District be created,
16 effective July 1, 2023.
17 that a part time Associate District Superintendent for Rural Ministry Development position for
18 the Northeast District be created, effective July 1, 2023.
19 that the Brownsburg Calvary United Methodist Church, Associate Pastor position become less
20 than full time, effective July 1, 2023.
21 that an associate pastor position be created at Columbus First United Methodist Church, effective
22 July 1, 2023.
23
24

HOUSING ALLOWANCES

26 Historically, The United Methodist Church and its predecessor denominations have operated within an
27 appointive system in which the support of a pastor has included the provision of a house (parsonage)
28 which meets qualifications for a standard parsonage. It is affirmed that our appointive itinerant system of
29 ministry is best facilitated when parsonages are provided by local churches and/or Annual Conference
30 agencies. The Indiana Conference of The United Methodist Church is known as a “parsonage”
31 Conference. This means that churches are expected to provide parsonages for full time appointments,
32 and pastors and their families are expected to make these parsonages home. In recent years, some
33 congregations have asked permission to furnish a housing allowance rather than provide a house. Since
34 there are situations in which such an arrangement is no detriment to the appointive system, there is a
35 need for a policy statement. That policy shall be as follows: (In the following, “church” or “local church”
36 also refers to Annual Conference agencies.)

- 37 1. Every church must be willing to provide a parsonage rather than an allowance if a newly
38 appointed pastor so requests.
- 39 2. The Administrative Board/Administrative Council shall request of the Cabinet and Bishop written
40 permission to exercise the option of a housing allowance. A written statement by the pastor that
41 he/she joins in the request and will not use the existence of such arrangement to resist future
42 appointments shall be filed with the request. These written requests shall be filed and approved
43 before the plans for such a procedure are completed.
- 44 3. The housing allowance shall be large enough to provide housing in compliance with the standard
45 parsonage. The suitability of such an allowance shall be determined by the Pastor/Staff-Parish
46 Relations Committee in consultation with the Superintendent and the pastor involved and
47 approved by the Administrative Board/Administrative Council or Charge Conference.
- 48 4. When a housing allowance is provided, the allowance shall be sufficient to cover Conference

1 policies regarding utilities, equipment, maintenance, and insurance.

- 2 5. If such an agreement is made and the pastor involved does not have adequate funds for a down
3 payment, the church shall lend the pastor this amount at a rate of interest no more than the
4 average rate being received on funds invested by the church or at the rate received on funds
5 invested as a result of the sale of a parsonage.
- 6 6. A newly appointed pastor has no obligation to purchase the house of his/her predecessor.
- 7 7. If a pastor desires, a housing allowance may be used for rent. In such a case, numbers 3 and 4
8 above shall still apply.
- 9 8. When a church enters into this arrangement and sells its parsonage, an amount of the sale
10 sufficient to purchase another standard parsonage is to be kept and invested for the purpose. An
11 amount sufficient to purchase another standard parsonage can be determined using the
12 following formulae: 1) All of the sales price invested for future purchase; or 2) twenty percent of
13 the sales price plus an amount estimated to make a down payment sufficient to provide for no
14 more than a twenty-year mortgage that has monthly payments that can be afforded by the local
15 congregation and an amount sufficient to make twenty-four consecutive mortgage payments, all
16 invested for future Indiana United Methodist Conference - 2021 Page 289 purchase (these
17 amounts can be based on current market values). Interest should be accrued to match inflation.
18 However, the church may use some or all of the interest to help provide a housing allowance,
19 with the clear understanding that, if the church has to purchase another parsonage in the future
20 (See 5. above), it shall have to provide whatever additional funds are necessary for such a
21 purchase. Such an arrangement shall be made a matter of record in the minutes of the Charge
22 Conference or Administrative Board/Administrative Council.
- 23 9. Exception to this restriction may be granted in specifically designated instances to allow use of
24 equity and/or accumulated assets from the sale of property to provide for congregational
25 redevelopment efforts including program and staff. Per ¶12543.3, such exception may be granted
26 by the Bishop and the cabinet upon request of the local church in consultation with the church
27 development staff. A clear and detailed three to five year redevelopment plan that projects a
28 self-supporting ministry must accompany the request. In addition, proceeds in excess of the
29 amount set aside for future parsonage purchase can also be used for improvements to an existing
30 parsonage being lived in by an appointed pastor, or to purchase a building or make
31 improvements to an existing building which will be used for the ministry of the local church.
32 These exceptions do not nullify the requirements delineated in #5 above.
- 33 10. At times a charge may have more than one parsonage due to the charge alignment. When the
34 churches involved, in consultation with the Superintendent and the District Committee on Church
35 Location and Building, determines it is unlikely that one of the parsonages will ever be used again,
36 that parsonage may be sold (according to the provisions of The Book of Discipline). Acceptable
37 options for use of the money are:
 - 38 a. Invest the capital and use the interest to help maintain the parsonage in use.
 - 39 b. Invest the capital and accrue interest against the possibility that the church might have to
40 furnish a parsonage if its charge alignment situation changed. This arrangement does not
41 release the church from the possibility of having to provide a parsonage in the future.
 - 42 c. Use the funds for capital improvements and/or for mission projects.
 - 43 d. Create an endowment fund, using interest for capital expenditures or missions or
44 maintenance, or some other specific purpose in consultation with the Superintendent.
- 45 11. The pastor may waive the requirements under paragraph 4. above. This must be done in writing
46 with copies filed in Charge Conference and with the Superintendent.
- 47 12. Neither pastors nor congregations are to interpret any of these provisions so as to circumvent
48 participation in the appointive system of The United Methodist Church. When an incoming pastor

1 requests a housing allowance in lieu of a parsonage, concurrence is to be made by both Pastor-
2 Parish Relations Committee and Administrative Board/Administrative Council.

5 STANDARDS FOR AN ADEQUATE PARSONAGE

6 In recognition of the need for common understanding of parsonage expectations in the longtime close
7 relationship between lay persons and their pastors, the Annual Conference has adopted the following
8 standards for appropriate parsonage housing. It is the hope of the Annual Conference that every parish
9 will provide a parsonage that the church can be proud of since we are a parsonage conference.

10
11 We call the attention of all pastors and lay persons to the statement in the Discipline, which says, "The
12 chairperson of the board of trustees or the chairperson of the parsonage committee, if one exists, the
13 chairperson of the committee on pastor- parish relations, and the pastor shall make an annual review of
14 the church-owned parsonage to ensure proper maintenance." (Par. 2533.4 2016 Book of Discipline) The
15 parsonage is to be mutually respected by the pastor's family as the property of the church and by the
16 church as a place of privacy for the pastor's family.

17 18 The House

19 *It is required that there be the following or equivalent functional and operational items:*

- 20 1. a living room
- 21 2. a dining room
- 22 3. a family room or recreational room
- 23 4. three bedrooms
- 24 5. a kitchen with adequate built-in cabinets, counter and work space
- 25 6. two bathrooms
- 26 7. a utility area
- 27 8. an adequate laundry area
- 28 9. closets in all bedrooms, study, entrance hall and linen storage
- 29 10. a two-car garage
- 30 11. bulk storage area
- 31 12. Insulation
 - 32 a. In the case of a new parsonage, full insulation of ceiling, walls and floors.
 - 33 b. Older parsonages should be updated in an effort to be good stewards of energy
34 resources.
- 35 13. Automatic central heat and air conditioning
- 36 14. Storm or thermopane windows and storm or insulated doors, with screens for the
37 entire house
- 38 15. Window coverings throughout house
- 39 16. Carpeting or attractive flooring in living and dining areas; appropriate floor coverings
40 in kitchen and finished flooring in the remainder of the house
- 41 17. adequate wiring which meets standard of local safety codes, sufficient outlets and
42 attractive fixtures.
- 43 18. a study/office with provision for privacy either at the parsonage or at the church
- 44 19. outside lighting

45
46 *It is desirable that there be:*

- 47 1. a fourth bedroom with closet, with at least one bedroom on the first floor
- 48 2. an attached two-car garage

- 1 3. a study located at the parsonage and an office at the church
- 2 4. a garden area
- 3 5. additional storage space
- 4 6. a second bath or half-bath for each floor
- 5 7. fence

6

7 The Utilities and Appliances

8 *It is required that there be the following functional and operational items:*

- 9 1. an electric or gas cooking range with oven
- 10 2. a microwave
- 11 3. a garbage disposal
- 12 4. a dishwasher
- 13 5. automatic washer and dryer
- 14 6. hot water heater with adequate capacity
- 15 7. refrigerator with adequate freezer space
- 16 8. basic cable or basic satellite TV
- 17 9. cell phone service provided for the pastor (whether in a parsonage or on a housing allowance)
- 18 10. soft water service where needed
- 19 11. a power lawn mower or lawn service
- 20 12. adequate sewage disposal
- 21 13. smoke detectors, carbon monoxide detectors, and fire extinguishers, (especially kitchen and near furnace) as required by state fire code for rental property
- 22 14. high-speed internet connection via cable modem, DSL or other method, or if such service is not available in the locality, a "mi-fi" device may be substituted.

26

27 *It is desirable that there be:*

- 28 1. a food freezer
- 29 2. an automatic garage door opener
- 30 3. snow blower or snow removal service

31

32 General Items

- 33 1. The interior, exterior, the garage, and all equipment must be kept in good and workable condition and repair and the exterior appearance well maintained.
- 34 2. It is essential that the primary minister's study be supplied with computer, high speed internet service, printer, telephone, bookshelves, desk and chair, and copy machine. It is desirable that a fax or scanner be provided.
- 35 3. It is desirable that the parsonage home be readily accessible to school, shopping center, and church.
- 36 4. All new parsonage construction and/or purchase must meet, as a minimum, the housing construction codes for the county involved.
- 37 5. Every effort should be made to provide energy efficiency and handicapped accessibility in all new construction. It should be as maintenance-free as possible
- 38 6. Renters Insurance for Pastors - Clergy living in church owned houses must have adequate coverage for their belongings and also for personal liability for their family. This type of coverage is usually NOT part of a church package and must be purchased separately by the pastor (renter's insurance). It seems prudent to place that responsibility in the hands of the pastor who will need to become a good consumer and

1 verify the sufficiency of the coverage for her/himself. Placing the choice of carrier and
2 coverage in the hands of the local church may result in insufficient coverage for the
3 pastor/family.

- 4 7. The required standards are to be met or exceeded in all purchased parsonages and/or
5 new construction and are to be a goal for all existing parsonages.
- 6 8. The family leaving the parsonage is expected to leave it in good order and clean.
7 Unreasonable damage shall be paid for by the family doing the damage. (See policy on
8 "Unusual Damages to Local Church Parsonages.")
- 9 9. An air quality test for molds is to be conducted every other year in each parsonage, and
10 the results be reported to the Charge Conference; and that if the test shows excessive
11 mold contamination, remediation is to start as soon as possible with the pastoral family
12 located to clean temporary housing, *paid at the expense of the local church*. It is
13 recommended that the same test be done in churches.

14 15 16 UNUSUAL DAMAGES TO LOCAL CHURCH PARSONAGES

17 The Indiana Conference of The United Methodist Church is known as a 'parsonage' conference. This
18 means that churches are expected to provide parsonages, and pastors and their families are expected to
19 make these parsonages homes. To assist in the appointment of pastors and churches, the Annual
20 Conference has adopted certain standards for parsonages, and it expects that these standards will be the
21 norm for all local churches as well as the Annual Conference. Most parsonage families and churches in
22 the Indiana Conference exercise excellent stewardship in caring for church-owned parsonages. There are,
23 however, times when unusual damages occur.

24
25 **General Destructiveness:** Unusual damages to church parsonages include those elements of destruction
26 over and above the usual wear and tear which comes from family living.

27 **Pets:** Pets are an integral part of many parsonage families. Pastors will reimburse the church for
28 parsonage damage beyond the normal wear and tear of living and this certainly includes responsibility for
29 parsonage pets. Because of the unknowns with regard to pets, ***a local church will require a pet deposit of***
30 ***at least \$600***, in addition to an annual, physical inspection of the parsonage. It is suggested that this could
31 be withheld in six payments over a six-month period and then upon the move of the pastor it will be
32 refunded to the pastor if the pet has done no damage. If damage is in excess of this amount the pastor
33 will reimburse the church/conference for actual damages.

34 35 **Guidelines for Handling Unusual Damages:**

- 36 1. The Pastor-Parish Relations Committee and the Board of Trustees are required to establish a
37 scheduled inspection of parsonage facilities at least annually and have an open discussion of their
38 findings with the pastor and spouse. This will permit both parties to review the general
39 deficiencies of the parsonage and define programs and time-tables for improvement.
- 40 2. Any unusual findings shall be reported to the Superintendent.
- 41 3. Unusual damages should be paid for by the pastor involved. Various approaches for
42 repayment of unusual damages may be necessary, including:
 - 43 a. Withholding of funds from the pastor's salary which shall be documented in a signed
44 Memorandum Of Understanding.
 - 45 b. Creating a repayment schedule which might follow the pastor to his/her next
46 assignment.
 - 47 c. Creation of an escrow fund for unusual parsonage damage by those parsonage families
48 who are identified as habitual offenders.

- 1 d. In every case, the handling of such matters must be done in consultation with the
2 supervising Superintendent. Which shall be documented in a signed Memorandum Of
3 Understanding.
4

5
6 **Vacation Policy For Pastors**

7 All pastors appointed and serving a full or part-time charge or Conference position within the Indiana
8 Conference shall be granted, and are strongly encouraged to take, annual minimum vacations between
9 Annual Conference sessions (Between July 1 and June 30th of each year).
10

11 All pastors, full time or part time, receive a minimum of 4 weeks of vacation per Annual Conference year.
12 (including 4 Sundays)
13

14 The Pastor-Parish Relations Committee or appropriate supervisory committee should ask that the pastor
15 report annually, preceding the Annual Conference, regarding vacation time taken during the conference
16 year. "Vacation" is interpreted to mean freedom from any responsibility in the local church or charge,
17 cluster, district, conference, area, jurisdictional, or General Conference. Vacation should be a time of rest,
18 recreation, and renewal. It should not be considered by the church to mean that the pastor would be
19 working at church camp, mission trip, attending a national convention for some board, commission, or
20 committee of the Conference to which he/she may be a member, or other such activity. Student pastors
21 who reside on the charge shall be granted 2 weeks paid vacation between Annual Conference sessions,
22 including 2 Sundays, after completion of one full year of service from the first Sunday without regard to
23 Annual Conference meeting.