CHURCH CONFERENCE RESOLUTIONS
DISAFFILIATION FROM THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

WHEREAS, **[✶Name of Incorporated Church]**, [✶City], Florida ("**Local Church**"), is a Florida corporation not for profit and a United Methodist local church in The Florida Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church (the "**Annual Conference**") for which a church conference has been duly called and convened on [✶Date of Church Conference], 2023 (the "**Church Conference**"), for the purpose of voting to disaffiliate from The United Methodist Church pursuant to paragraphs 2553 and 2529.1.b)(3) of *The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church* (the "**Discipline**"); and

WHEREAS, pursuant to paragraph 2501.1 of the Discipline, Local Church holds its real and personal, tangible and intangible, property "in trust for The United Methodist Church and subject to the provisions of its Discipline" (the "**Trust Clause**"); and

WHEREAS, paragraph 2501.2 of the Discipline provides that property of a United Methodist local church that is subject to the Trust Clause "can be released from the trust, transferred free of trust or subordinated to the interests of creditors and other third parties only to the extent authority is given by the Discipline"; and

WHEREAS, paragraph 2553 of the Discipline provides a process for a local church to disaffiliate from The United Methodist Church "for reasons of conscience regarding a change in the requirements and provisions of the 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 which follow" and to obtain the release of its real and personal property from the trust imposed by paragraph 2501 of the Discipline (the Trust Clause); and

WHEREAS, paragraph 2553 of the Discipline requires the decision of a local church to disaffiliate from The United Methodist Church for the stated reasons to be approved by the affirmative vote of least two-thirds of the church's professing members who are present at a church conference that is convened in accordance with paragraph 248 of the Discipline; and

WHEREAS, Paragraph 2553.4 of the Discipline requires the terms and conditions of a local church's disaffiliation from The United Methodist Church to be "established by the board of trustees of the applicable annual conference" and "memorialized in a binding Disaffiliation Agreement between the annual conference and the trustees of the local church, acting on behalf of the members";

WHEREAS, the terms and conditions for a local church in the Annual Conference to disaffiliate from The United Methodist Church have been established by The Board of Trustees of The Florida Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church, Inc. (together with the Annual Conference, the "**Florida Conference**") and set forth in the Disaffiliation Agreement (the "**Disaffiliation Agreement**");;

WHEREAS, Paragraph 2529.1.b)(3) of the Discipline provides that a United Methodist local church "cannot sever its connectional relationship to The United Methodist Church without the consent of the annual conference," and the Judicial Council of The United Methodist Church has ruled in Judicial Decision 1379 dated April 25, 2019, that this consent may be provided by a vote of "a simple majority of the members of the annual conference present and voting" at a session of the annual conference convened after the vote by the church conference of the local church to disaffiliate from the denomination pursuant to paragraph 2553 of the Discipline;

WHEREAS, Local Church desires to obtain the release of its real and personal, tangible and intangible, property from the trust that is imposed by Trust Clause by disaffiliating from The United Methodist Church in accordance with the requirements of paragraphs 2553 and 2529.1.b)(3) of the Discipline; and

WHEREAS, the Church Conference has been duly called and convened for Local Church for the purpose of voting to disaffiliate from The United Methodist Church pursuant to paragraphs 2553 and 2529.1.b)(3) of the Discipline;

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS RESOLVED, that Local Church desires to disaffiliate from, and sever its connectional relationship with, 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 which follow; and it is

FURTHER RESOLVED, that Local Church shall take all necessary action to disaffiliate from, and sever its connectional relationship with, The United Methodist Church in compliance with paragraphs 2553 and 2529.1.b)(3) of the Discipline; and it is

FURTHER RESOLVED, that Local Church is authorized to enter into a Disaffiliation Agreement with the Florida Conference; and it is

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Church is authorized to execute, deliver, and perform its obligations under the Disaffiliation Agreement; and it is

FURTHER RESOLVED, that, if the disaffiliation of Local Church from The United Methodist Church is approved by the Annual Conference and Local Church satisfies all conditions precedent to its disaffiliation, Local Church shall change its name to a name that does not include the word "United" juxta the word "Methodist," and, as determined by the Board of Trustees of Local Church, shall either (1) discharge on or before the effective date of its disaffiliation all its liabilities, other than accounts payable, accrued expenses, and loans from the Florida United Methodist Foundation, or (2) dissolve and transfer promptly after the effective date of its disaffiliation all its assets, liabilities, and obligations to another church or new church entity that assumes and agrees to pay and perform all the liabilities and obligations of Local Church.

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the officers of the Board of Trustees of Local Church, and each of them alone, are authorized and empowered to do the following in the name and on behalf of Local Church:

(a) Execute and deliver to the Florida Conference the Disaffiliation Agreement and any other document or instrument that they determine to be desirable, necessary, or appropriate to effectuate the disaffiliation of Local Church from The United Methodist Church (the "**Disaffiliation Documents**");

(b) Make any changes to the form or content of any of the Disaffiliation Documents (including amendments and modifications) that they determine to be desirable, necessary, or appropriate, as conclusively evidenced by their execution of the Disaffiliation Documents on behalf of Local Church;

(c) Execute and file with the Florida Division of Corporations Articles of Amendment to the Articles of Incorporation of Local Church to change its name to a name that does not include the word "United" juxta the word "Methodist" (the **"Name Change Amendment"**);

(d) If the Board of Trustees determines that Local Church should dissolve and transfer all its assets, liabilities, and obligations to another church or new church entity that assumes and agrees to pay and perform all the liabilities and obligations of Local Church, to execute and file with the Florida Division of Corporations Articles of Dissolution and a Notice of Dissolution to dissolve and terminate Local Church's active status as a corporation and to execute and deliver to the successor church a deed, bill of sale, assignment and assumption agreement, and any other document or instrument that they determine to be desirable, necessary, or appropriate to accomplish the transfer of all the assets, liabilities, and obligations of Local Church to the successor church (collectively, the **"Transfer and Dissolution Documents"**);

(e) Pay from the funds of Local Church all fees, costs, taxes, expenses, and other disbursements that are desirable, necessary, or appropriate to prepare and execute the Disaffiliation Documents, the Name Change Amendment, and, if applicable, the Transfer and Dissolution Documents and to consummate the disaffiliation of Local Church from The United Methodist Church that is contemplated by the Disaffiliation Agreement and, if applicable, the dissolution of Local Church and the transfer of all its assets, liabilities, and obligations to a successor church; and

(f) Do any and all other acts and things as they may determine are desirable, necessary, or appropriate to execute and deliver any of the Disaffiliation Documents, the Name Change Amendment, and, if applicable, the Transfer and Dissolution Documents and to consummate the disaffiliation of Local Church from The United Methodist Church that is contemplated by the Disaffiliation Agreement and, if applicable, the dissolution of Local Church and the transfer of all its assets, liabilities, and obligations to a successor church, and to otherwise carry out the intent and purposes of the preceding resolutions; and it is

FURTHER RESOLVED, that, if these resolutions are approved by the affirmative vote of at least two-thirds of the professing members of Local Church who are present at the Church Conference, the Secretary of Local Church shall sign and deliver to the Annual Conference a Certificate of Church Secretary to certify the vote of the Church Conference to disaffiliate from The United Methodist Church.

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