

ADVANCE NEWSLETTER

First United Methodist Church

June 1, 2022



Hello,

I wanted to try to summarize what we've learned so far about the Church's options for staying/leaving the United Methodist Denomination. First, let me give you the conference website [Local Churches — NWTX Conference](http://www.nwxtconf.org/local-churches) (www.nwxtconf.org/local-churches). If you are reading this electronically, you can click on the link and be taken to the Conference website that gives all the information about this issue. If you are reading this on paper, you will need to enter the website inside the parenthesis in your search bar on your computer to be able to visit the Conference website. Either way, I encourage you to go to the Conference website and sort through all the links and read all the information you can, especially the Transitional Book of

Discipline for the Global Methodist Church.

One of the most important things you need to understand is that we, you, as the Church and I, as the pastor WILL have to decide to either stay United Methodist (UMC), leave the UMC for a different Methodist denomination, like the Global Methodist Church, or go independent. The Judicial Council, the Supreme Court of the United Methodist Church, has ruled that an Annual Conference cannot legally leave the United Methodist Church, so FUMC Vernon and all other churches with the United Methodist Denomination must decide for themselves what path they want to follow. What is below is taken directly from the Conference website and outlines what we need to do. The Conference suggestion is to begin this process directly following Annual Conference but as your pastor, I am encouraging us to begin this process now. I realize that everything that is below is as clear as mud, so if you have questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to me and I will do my best to answer your questions.

Blessings,

Pastor Anthony

Since the Judicial Council ruled that it is illegal for the Annual Conference to leave the UMC, churches will need to enter a discernment process about staying in the UMC or exiting under paragraph 2553 in the 2019 Addendum to the 2016 Book of Discipline:

1. Every local church's leadership team will be challenged to spend two weeks praying and fasting to seek God's direction for their future.
2. After the season of prayer, the Church Council (or equivalent leadership group) will call a church-wide meeting or series of meetings to discuss if their church should remain in the UMC or start the process to leave under paragraph 2553.
 - a. A conference representative and resources will be made available for these meetings.
 - b. These meetings are only for information and conversation. No official vote will be taken.
 - c. Information will be distributed on the disaffiliation process and the cost of leaving under paragraph 2553.
 - d. If the church wishes to disaffiliate by December 31, 2022, they will be required to pay 100% of their Shared Ministries for 2022 by November 15, 2022. The remainder of their disaffiliation costs (unfunded pension withdrawal liabilities and 2023 Shared Ministries) will be covered by the conference's reserve funds.
 - e. Point d listed above is dependent on the June 2022 annual conference approving the Conference Council on Finance & Administration's document NWTX Transition Process Financial Framework that supports these recommendations.
3. Each local church will be challenged to spend an additional two weeks after the church-wide meeting praying and fasting to seek God's direction for their future.

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4. After the two weeks of prayer and fasting, the Church Council will ask the District Superintendent to call a Church Conference to take a vote.
5. The District Superintendent or an assigned elder will lead the called church conference.
 - a. Only professing members of the local church who are present may vote.
 - b. The vote will be between two options (2/3 majority required):
 - i. Remain in the UMC (this could be because the church needs more time to make their final decision or because this is their long-term desire).
 - ii. Disaffiliate and leave the UMC.
6. If the vote to disaffiliate reaches the 2/3 majority, the church will proceed to the following steps.
 - a. Local church Trustees sign a binding Disaffiliation Agreement provided by the annual conference.
 - b. Local church must submit all funds they owe for disaffiliation to the conference treasurer by November 15, 2022.
7. Bishop Nunn will lead a special called session of annual conference on 12/3/22 to give annual conference approval to all churches who have completed all steps to disaffiliate. The effective date will be 12:00 a.m. 1/1/23.
8. Local churches who have completed this process can choose to unite with other NWTX churches who are exiting to join the GMC, go independent, or join another denomination. These exiting churches will retain all assets, liabilities, and property.

Churches may decide to postpone their decision about their future until a later date.

1. Local churches may need more time to work through their decisions about their future. They would need to ensure they follow the process above to remain in the UMC while making this decision.
2. Two more seasons for disaffiliation under paragraph 2553 will be made available to churches in 2023:
 - a. January – June 2023: those churches who need longer to work through their decision will have another opportunity in early 2023 to move toward a July 1, 2023 separation date (final vote taken at annual conference June 2023).
 - b. June – December 2023: those churches who may want to delay even longer can take advantage of the final window available under paragraph 2553 for a December 31, 2023 separation (final vote taken at a yet to be called session of annual conference December 2023).
3. Churches could later choose an alternate path such as transferring to another denomination under paragraph 2548.2 in the 2019 Book of Discipline or another path provided by General Conference in 2024 or at a later date.

Disclaimer: Any of these paths outlined in this document could be changed by the actions of a future General Conference as it relates to the Book of Discipline or the actions of the annual conference or its leadership as it relates to annual conference policy.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS! SUMMER SWIM PARTIES!

Wednesday, June 8

Wednesday, July 20

Wednesday, August 10


All parties are from 7pm-9pm at Orbison Park Pool.

Pizza and water will be served for the first party (June 8). Please bring cookies, brownies, fruit, etc. to share.



We will have the "Food Truck Party" Vacation Bible School on June 19-22 from 6pm-8pm. We would love to have you join us. It's for ages Pre-K through 5th grades. If you have any questions, please contact Melissa Inman at 806-336-0514.

OUR ATTENDANCE
May 1
 Sunday School—61
 Worship—112
May 8
 Sunday School—68
 Worship—117
May 15
 Sunday School—54
 Worship—96
May 22
 Sunday School—72
 Worship—99
May 29
 Sunday School—
 Worship—



Mission Kitchen:
No one in Vernon should eat alone
 June 8: Pizza (swim party)
 June 22: TBA

Please join us on Sunday, June 19, as we Celebrate Father's Day!

Dear FUMC Church Family
 James 1:17 reminds us "Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father..."
 Your donation of \$500 came at a perfect time. Thank you for your financial gifts, your encouragement, and, most of all, for the prayers lifted for the Salvation Army ministry.
 In Christ's Love,
 The Vernon Salvation Army

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
JUNE 2022			1 7pm-Chancel Choir practice	2 5:15pm-Yoga class (Parlor) 5:15pm-Jubilate! Handbells 6pm-First Praise practice	3	4 7pm-Justin Gambino concert	
Summer office hours are 8:30am-1pm., Monday -Thursday.							
5 9am-Contemporary service 10am-Sunday School 11am-Traditional service 6pm-Handell concert (Wesley Hall)	6	7 10am-Methodist Women (Parlor) 5:15pm-Yoga class (Parlor)	8 7pm-Swim party (Orbison Park Pool) 7pm-Chancel Choir practice	9 5:15pm-Yoga class (Parlor) 6pm-First Praise practice	10	11	
12 9am-Contemporary service 10am-Sunday School 11am-Traditional service	13	14 5:15pm-Yoga class (Parlor)	15 7pm-Chancel Choir practice	16 5:15pm-Yoga class (Parlor) 6pm-First Praise practice	17	18	
19 Father's Day 9am-Contemporary service 10am-Sunday School 11am-Traditional service	20	21 5:15pm-Yoga class (Parlor)	22 9am-Salvation Army office open 6pm-Mission Kitchen 7pm-Chancel Choir practice	23 5:15pm-Yoga class (Parlor) 6pm-First Praise practice	24	JUNE BIRTHDAYS 2 Elaine Houston 7 Kelley Boone 8 Mary Sue Gunn Kevin Woodard 15 Sheila White Marcie Kendrick 16 Peighton Barker 17 Zackary Harjo 18 Kaden Hooker 19 Charles Ashley Joelee Ashley 21 Melody O'Dell 22 Stacia Boone Julie Barker 23 Starla Duke 24 Adam Woodard 25 Sandy Conkling 26 Dana Tarter Liz Agan 27 Karina Pulskamp-Woodard 28 Thomas Kendrick	
6pm-8pm-Vacation Bible School							
26 9am-Contemporary service 10am-Sunday School 11am-Traditional service Noon-Fish Fry 6pm-Leadership Team (Parlor)	27	28 5:15pm-Yoga class (Parlor)	29 7pm-Chancel Choir practice	30 5:15pm-Yoga class (Parlor) 6pm-First Praise practice			

MAY MEMORIALS

In Memory of CATHIE BRISTO

Pat Quisenberry (to Prayers and Squares), J.R. and Kay Fullerton (to Prayers and Squares), Winsome Class (to Prayers and Squares), Roger and Rochelle Beam, Elaine Houston (to Prayers and Squares), Frances Byars, Bobbie Inmon, Randy and Liz Agan (to Mission Kitchen), Paul and Sunny Hawkins (to Prayers and Squares), Tip Igou (to Prayers and Squares), Terry and Gloria Bourland, Jim and Mary Sue Gunn, Tim and Cathy Schur, Challenger's Class, Michael and Lana Carter, Dan and Sheila White

In Memory of JANICE LEATHERWOOD

J.R. and Kay Fullerton (to Prayers and Squares), Winsome Class (to Prayers and Squares), Elaine Houston (to Prayers and Squares), Fred and Sandy Conkling (to Prayers and Squares)

In Memory of TED WILLIAMS

Elaine Houston (to Prayers and Squares), Fred and Sandy Conkling (to Prayers and Squares)

In Memory of GLADYS LACY AND J.G. HULSEY, EDITH LACY

AND D.G. ROBERTSON

Claudette Owen (to Lacy Family Fund)

In Memory of ROBERTA REED

Randy and Liz Agan (to Mission Kitchen)

In Memory of MARSHA HAYNES

Terry and Gloria Bourland, Paul and Sunny Hawkins, Challenger's Class

In Memory of JON TOWNSON

Michael and Lana Carter

You may donate to the Church by scanning this image.



GIVE ONLINE

Now you can give contributions online using our easy online payment system. It's easy, fast, and secure. There's no need to mail in your checks. Simply go to the Church's web site (vernonfumc.org) and click on the link GIVE ONLINE and you will be directed to our Web giving page. This is the easiest way for you to make a contribution. Please be advised that there is a small (1%) third party processing fee.

PRAYER CONCERNS

.....JOHN HARDIN, LAWRENCE LATIMER, CRISTIN REYNA, ROCHELLE BEAM, TERRY CATO, LANI DANIELLE BANKSTON, HOWARD QUIETT, PRAYLEE PATTERSON, BRYNLEE DISBROW, RANDY AGAN, NORA PARMER, ROXIE AGAN, KARL HERZOG, MICHAEL PEGGRAM, MARGUERITE GRAY (shoulder surgery), TOM BROWN, DANIEL PORTER, JOYCE LITTLEFIELD, AMY MURRAY FERRARA, BILLIE TALBOT (BILLY'S MOTHER), ROY WOODARD, CAMERON DICKERSON, KEION DICKERSON, JUNE WRIGHT (Marcie Kendrick's mom), JOE BOB GRAY, BILLY TALBOT, JACK TOW (Teresa Whitehead's cousin), AUSTIN WEAVER (the Talbot's grand-son), RICKY TAYLOR, JAN WORRALL, CHRISTINA EDMONDS, JAMES LACY, BARBARA MEADOR, BOBBY COOPER, TELITHA ROBL AND FAMILY (Tina Borchardt's sister), STANTON AND TREVA TUCKER, WELLS MIDDLETON, BRENDA CHAPMAN, CARA AGAN, MISSY STONE, MICHELLE HUGHES, BETTY WILSON REXROAD, TROY SMITH, SHIRLEY AGAN, AUDEN BUTLER, FISK FAMILY, KASEY YOUNG, JOELEE ASHLEY

CONTINUED PRAYER

.....ELECTED OFFICIALS, EMT, FIREMEN, POLICE OFFICERS, DPS TROOPERS, ALL TEACHERS AND SCHOOLS

MILITARY PERSONNEL

.....J.B. ANDERSON, KAGEN PARKS, ZAKARY CAYLOR WRIGHT, DAYLON O'CONNOR WRIGHT, CALEB CAMPOS, NATHAN MINTS, HECTOR REYNA, JAKE CAUPELL, SCOTT AND TRISTAN SLATER, CHARLIE WATSON, LYLE RAINWATER, CHANCE HARLING, DEVIN BEATTY, LANCE MACON, DAVID JOHANSEN, DEREK BATES, SEAN BELL, ROBERT WHITEHEAD, CASEY WHORTON, TRAVIS POWELL, BROOKE MARTIN, CALEB INMAN

JUSTIN GAMBINO



LIVE IN CONCERT

(Free Admission)

Vernon, TX – FUMC Vernon

June 4th @ 7pm & June 5th @ 9am

Handbell Concert



Join the Jubilate! Handbell Choir for an evening of joyous music on June 5 at 6:00 p.m. The choir will play some new pieces and some favorites from the last few years. Please plan to attend the concert in Wesley Hall on June 5. We can't wait to share the music we love with all of you!

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED

Two Vernon High School seniors and one college student were awarded scholarships by the First United Methodist Church.

VHS senior Ayle Talbot received a \$500 Frances Quiett Memorial Scholarship. This scholarship was established in memory of Frances Quiett and honors faith and character as exhibited at FUMC. She is the daughter of Billy and Carolyn Talbot. While in high school, she was involved with tennis, the Medical Assistant's Program, and the Nurse Aide Program. She plans to attend Vernon College's registered nursing program.

Ayle Talbot, VHS senior Blakely Schur, and college student Joseph Boone each received \$1000 Jim Gregory and Edna Showers Memorial Scholarships. This scholarship honors faith and character, academic merit, and membership in the First United Methodist Church.

Schur is the daughter of Si and Rachel Schur. While in high school, she was involved with cheerleading, Student Council, and sports. She plans to attend Texas Tech University.

Southwestern Christian University student Joseph Boone is seeking a degree in business. Boone is the son of Stacia Boone and Kelley Boone.

Boone and Talbot both received \$1000 Bristo-West Family Scholarships. This scholarship was established by Cathy and Gene Bristo in memory of their parents. It is intended to honor faith and character as exhibited at FUMC, Vernon.