

Resolution to Change Congregational Organizational Plan to Simplified, Accountable Governance Structure

WHEREAS, Par. 247.2 of the 2016 Book of Discipline for the United Methodist Church (BOD) allows alternative models of governance; and

WHEREAS, the simplified, accountable leadership structure is utilized as an alternative model throughout the denomination and fulfills the provisions of Par. 243 of the 2016 BOD; and

WHEREAS, the members of the Church Council of Beaumont FUMC and others present prayerfully voted to explore the simplified accountability structure for church governance on August 14th, 2023; and

WHEREAS, the congregation was motivated to convert for reasons of efficiency, alignment with our mission and vision, accountability, and missional focus; and

WHEREAS, the Leadership Task Force and the pastor, after months of discernment, have crafted an alternative organizational plan for Beaumont FUMC; and

WHEREAS, this plan has been submitted to the district superintendent for review and approval:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. On January 1, 2024 the Disciplinary authority and various responsibilities of the Church Council, Staff Parish Relations Committee (SPRC), Finance Committee, Endowment Committee, and Board of Trustees, will be combined into a single body called the “Leadership Board.” Existing elected leadership of all classes of all constituent committees that make up the new Leadership Board will conclude their terms of service on December 31, 2023, as the church transitions to the new organizational plan.
2. The Committee on Nominations and Leadership Development of Beaumont FUMC is directed to submit a list of officers and members of a simplified, accountable structure known as the “Leadership Board” and a Committee on Nominations and Leadership Development divided into appropriate three-year classes, as outlined in the BOD (par. 258), for election by this Charge Conference session. All members of the Leadership Board and the Charge Conference will be professing members. The Chair of the Board of Trustees will be elected from among the voting Trustee members of the Leadership Board in the first board meeting of each year, in accordance with the BOD, and may be the Leadership Board Chair.
3. On January 1, 2024 the Charge Conference of Beaumont FUMC will be composed of the members of the Leadership Board, appointed clergy (ex-officio), together with retired ordained ministers and retired diaconal ministers who elect to hold their membership in our charge conference. Lay Members of Annual Conference, the Lay Leader, Treasurer and Finance Secretary (if non-staff), and the elected membership of

the Committee on Nominations and Leadership Development.

4. All charge conferences that include election of board members will be held as church conferences - all church members will be eligible to attend and vote.

5. The Lay Delegate to Annual Conference and Lay Leader are ex officio members of the Leadership Board, if not already elected into a membership class of the Leadership Board. Ex officio members have voice, but no vote on all matters.

6. All Disciplinary requirements and qualifications for each of the constituent committees (Church Council, SPRC, Finance Committee, and Board of Trustees) will continue with the combined Leadership Board, including Trustee age of majority qualifications and SPRC household membership limitations.

7. All references to the Church Council, Board of Trustees, SPRC, and Finance Committee, in all existing church policies, as of December 31, 2023 shall be understood to refer to the Leadership Board beginning January 1, 2024.

8. The Board of Trustees is directed immediately to make appropriate amendments to the congregation's bylaws to reflect the new plan for organization and submit an update to the Secretary of State's office in a manner defined by state law for nonprofit corporations.

9. In service to our common mission to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world, all existing ministry teams will be accountable to the Pastor and Leadership Board in administrative matters and in fulfillment of Par. 243 of the BOD.

10. The Leadership Board will abide with existing financial, child protection, building use, and personnel policies along with inaugural Guiding Principles and a Leadership Board Covenant as developed by the Leadership Task Force. The Leadership Board is empowered to amend these policies, principles, and covenant. The Leadership Board shall share updated Guiding Principles with the charge conference annually.

APPROVED, (12/4/23)

Secretary, Church Conference _____

Presiding Elder _____