

Resolution on Disaffiliation for Grandview United Methodist Church, under ¶2553 of *The Book of Discipline* of The United Methodist Church

*Whereas*, the Bible teaches us to welcome the stranger (Exodus 22:21), to love our neighbor (Matthew 22:39), to be ambassadors of reconciliation (2 Corinthians 5:18–20), and to do justice (Micah 6:8);

*Whereas*, Jesus Christ calls Grandview United Methodist Church to be a fully inclusive church, recognizing the sacred worth of all people, including those of every sexual orientation and gender identity;

*Whereas*, Grandview encounters increasing hostility from The United Methodist Church when attempting to fulfill the aforementioned teachings and calling because of the severe proscriptions, prohibitions, and penalties enacted by General Conference 2019 that went into effect as of January 1, 2020;

*Whereas*, Grandview cannot uphold or abide by laws of The United Methodist Church prohibiting ordination of gay and lesbian pastors nor the prohibition against same-gender weddings, because we consider these laws unjust, discriminatory, and a detriment to our professed mission to embrace those who are marginalized for any reason;

*Whereas*, [paragraph 2553.1](#) allows churches to disaffiliate for reasons of conscience regarding a change in the requirements and provisions of *The Book of Discipline* related to homosexuality or the ordination or marriage of homosexual people or the actions or inactions of its annual conference related to these issues;

*Therefore, be it resolved*, that Grandview United Methodist Church reaffirms its biblical commitments and calling, including ministry with LGBTQ persons without discrimination; recommits itself to do justice to our neighbors and members who are marginalized for any reason; and redoubles its intention to cultivate respectful discussion of differences among all who seek to love their neighbors;

*Be it further resolved*, that Grandview United Methodist Church seeks to disaffiliate itself from The United Methodist Church [pursuant to the provisions of paragraph 2553.1 of \*The Book of Discipline\*](#) and hereby authorizes its Church Council, pastoral leadership, the Eastern Pennsylvania Annual Conference, bishop, conference trustees, and any and all others required to take action on its behalf to complete such processes as needed for a timely and undelayed disaffiliation; provided, however, that this resolution may be rescinded at a subsequent congregational meeting.

***Passed with 96% approval on February 10, 2020.***