

# 2021 TAC Resolution on Fair Distribution of TAC Assets

*At the meeting of the Texas Annual Conference (in May, on zoom), we will be voting on an important resolution. It seeks to ensure that we have a fair distribution of TAC assets, provided that the General Conference votes to allow a future separation.*

*The resolution is below. Please read, study, pray, share, and express your support for this to others who are voting at annual conference.*

## **RESOLUTION FOR A PLAN OF ALLOCATION OF ASSETS AND DISCERNMENT OF RELATIONSHIP TO ENABLE THOUGHTFUL AND PRAYERFUL DECISIONS BY TEXAS ANNUAL CONFERENCE CHURCHES, LAITY, AND CLERGY**

**Whereas** congregations, laity, and clergy of the Texas Annual Conference share deep faith in Jesus Christ and value John Wesley's tradition of a "catholic spirit," recognizing not all faithful people agree on particular matters of faith, rather demonstrate love and respect for one another, affirming that we are all sisters and brothers in Jesus Christ; and our hope is for a future that includes a unified United Methodist Church

**Whereas** the meeting of the next General and Jurisdictional Conferences may develop legislation which dissolves or fundamentally changes The United Methodist Church and its member conferences potentially leaving many unresolved issues for member congregations, laity, and clergy of the Texas Annual Conference.

**Whereas**, there is a precedent in the Texas Annual Conference for planning regarding allocation of assets and discernment with respect to a change in relationship with the United Methodist Church which happened over 2019-2020 in response to the General Conference of 2019 and provisions in the Book of Discipline, and a task group brought a process to the Texas Annual Conference 2020 which incorporated General Conference directives along with recommendations for determining apportionments, pension obligations, shares in the assets of the benefit reserves and discernment steps for local congregations;

**Whereas**, the faithfulness, worth, and integrity of each Christian disciple is valued, and supported by researched planning which lends itself to this ideal as well as ensuring that all congregations, clergy, and lay persons within the Texas Annual Conference can make well-reasoned decisions regarding their future in whatever form change might take.

**Therefore, be it resolved**, that the Texas Annual Conference establish a Task Force after the adjournment of a General Conference which fundamentally changes our denomination. The Task Force would be comprised of representatives from the following groups, with each group meeting to choose its representative (1 person):

- a. Council on Finance and Administration
- b. Board of Trustees
- c. Board of Pensions
- d. Group Health Benefits Committee

- e. Texas Conference General Conference Delegation
- f. Cabinet
- g. Caucus Groups of the Texas Conference: BMCR, That We May Be One, RUMTX, and the Confessing Movement (1 person from each group for a total of 4)
- h. Board of Ordained Ministry—an Officer, a Local Pastor, and a Retired Pastor (for a total of 3 representatives)
- i. Chancellor
- j. Conference Lay Leader
- k. Assistant to the Bishop
- l. 3 Representatives chosen by the Bishop to insure balance

The Assistant to the Bishop shall convene this Task Force, at which time the group will elect its Chairperson and begin its work. Conference staff shall be available to assist and support the work of the Task Force. The completion of their work and final report shall be accomplished within a time frame of no less than three (3) months nor more than six (6) months.

**Therefore, be it further resolved,** that this Task Force utilize previous work that addresses the disposition or reallocation of assets, property, and personnel such as the district re-alignment in Bound for Greater Things and the work of the 2019-2020 task force, Principles Regarding Local Church Requests for Disaffiliation

**Therefore, be it further resolved,** that this Task Force study and incorporate the decisions of the next General Conference and provide conformity with these decisions for any Plan to be adopted by the Texas Annual Conference

**Therefore, be it further resolved,** that this Task Force present a Plan for the Allocation of Assets and Discernment of Relationship, in the event of change in relationship with the United Methodist Church, to the Texas Annual Conference, either regularly scheduled or called, which is in compliance with the 3 to 6 month time frame established for the Task Force to complete its work. The plan will address matters of but not limited to:

- a. Financial Assets
- b. Property
- c. Liabilities
- d. Benefits
- e. Institutional Relationships (as identified in current Texas Annual Conference rules and structure)
- f. Ministerial Relationships
- g. Local Church Discernment of decisions and relationship

**Therefore, be it further resolved** that any actions taken as an annual conference or local congregation shall comply with and be in harmony with the Plan should it be adopted.

Presented by:

Janet Allen  
Paula Arnold  
Jim Bankston  
Nathan Lonsdale Bledsoe  
Jesse Brannen  
Emily Chapman  
Reginald Clemmons  
Trey Comstock  
Chris Cragg  
Karen Dorris  
Elizabeth Duffin  
Seann Duffin  
John Esquivel  
Bea Garza  
Stephanie Griffin  
Wayne Haglund

Royce Hickman  
Nancy Hinshaw  
Brandi Tevebaugh Horton  
David Horton  
Beverly Waddleton Johnson  
Todd Jordan  
Lindsay Kirkpatrick  
Jerry Massey  
Jim McPhail  
Jeff McDonald  
Don Meador  
Charles Millikan  
Preston Morgan  
Jerry Neff  
Tom Pace  
Andrew Payne  
Rudy Rasmus  
Stephanie Scott  
Jennifer Simmons  
Pat Sparks  
Gail Ford Smith  
Sandra Smith  
John Stephens  
Sue Sullivan  
Leah Taylor  
Carol Tevebaugh  
Carol Turner  
Don Waddleton  
Frankie Watson  
Jim Welch  
Keith Whitaker  
B.T. Williamson  
Tom Wussow  
Lawrence Young