



The
North Georgia Conference
of The United Methodist Church

Central West District

District Superintendent Rev. Dr. Jessica Terrell

January 10, 2023

Due West UMC
3956 Due West Road
Marietta, GA 30064

Dear Due West UMC Pastor, Administrative Chair, Secretary, SPRC Chair & Trustee Chair,

I have received your letter in response to the December 28, 2022 announcement of a pause in the paragraph 2553 disaffiliation process. Please understand that the Appointive Cabinet and Conference Board of Trustees do not take this decision lightly.

The process implemented regarding paragraph 2553 was intended to allow congregations an opportunity to take part in this specific path to disaffiliate via a graceful exit from The United Methodist Church. The agreement requires the Annual Conference and its congregations to engage in the disaffiliation process with integrity and in good faith.

Unfortunately, certain factions within the conference have engaged in a sustained, coordinated, and extensive campaign of disinformation and disingenuous attacks against the Annual Conference. The specific goal of this disinformation campaign is to manipulate congregants into voting for disaffiliation.

The Appointive Cabinet and Conference Board of Trustees have taken this pause in an effort to preserve the consistency and integrity of the disaffiliation process. We remain committed to handling this matter in a fair, transparent, uniform, and good faith manner that affirms the one universal church in service to Christ and honors the mission and ministry of all Christians. The Conference Board of Trustees and Cabinet are prayerfully exploring the best methods for moving forward and next steps available as set forth in the Book of Discipline. Given the circumstances, this approach is the most gracious available to us.

Therefore, during this season of pause, the appointive cabinet will not hold any church conferences for the purposes of disaffiliation. Thank you for joining us in prayer as we all seek to be faithful disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

In Christ,

Rev. Dr. Jessica Terrell
District Superintendent
Central West District NGUMC