

Petition Requesting the Southeastern Jurisdiction to Authorize Formation of  
the Tennessee-Western Kentucky Conference of The United Methodist  
Church

Whereas: The Nashville Episcopal Area is comprised of the Memphis and Tennessee conferences, and

Whereas: In 2019, the Tennessee Annual Conference and Memphis Annual Conference sessions each voted to petition the Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference to take action at its 2020 session setting the boundaries of the two conferences to form a new conference, with the new conference to operate as a fully unified annual conference beginning in January 2021, and

Whereas: Due to delays in General Conference and Jurisdictional Conference meetings resulting from the global COVID-19 pandemic, the Jurisdictional Conference did not meet in 2020 session, but has called a special session for July 2021, and

Whereas: It has become necessary to delay the new conference's commencement of operation as a fully unified annual conference to January 1, 2022, and moving forward with this adjusted commencement date was acknowledged and affirmed by the Tennessee Annual Conference and the Memphis Annual Conference in their June 2021 sessions:

Now, therefore, be it resolved, that the Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference approves realigning the boundaries of the Memphis and Tennessee annual conferences to form one new annual conference known as the Tennessee-Western Kentucky Conference of The United Methodist Church, with boundaries coextensive with the current Tennessee and Memphis conferences.

Be it further resolved that the Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference authorizes such new conference to conduct an organizational meeting consisting of the voting membership (lay and clergy) of the Tennessee and Memphis annual conferences prior to January 1, 2022, and to begin operations as a fully unified annual conference on January 1, 2022, all in accordance with a Plan of Union adopted by both conferences at their June 2021 annual conference sessions.

This action will be become effective upon the adjournment of the Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference, July 21, 2021.

Submitted by:

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