



Liberty Chapel

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*A body knowing and growing in Christ
so deeply that He is overflowing to others.*

August 8, 2022

To: All Liberty Chapel Members

Dear Chapelites,

A special Church Conference has been called for Sunday, August 21, 2022, 3:00 p.m. in our church sanctuary for the purpose of a vote for disaffiliation from the United Methodist Church. This is the congregational meeting in which all members of Liberty Chapel will have the opportunity to vote on the future direction of our church.

All full members are eligible to vote. You must be present to vote. All members of Liberty Chapel are invited and urged to attend.

The Church Council adopted the following statement at its August 1 meeting:

Our reasons for disaffiliation include differences between Liberty Chapel and the United Methodist Church on Biblical interpretation and core doctrinal issues. We also choose to leave because the leadership of our denomination and conference has refused to administer the rules in our covenantal Book of Discipline.

The West Ohio Conference will only permit the use of Paragraph 2553, which allows congregations to leave "for reasons of conscience regarding a change in the requirements and provisions of The Book of Discipline related to the practice of homosexuality or the ordination or marriage of self-avowed practicing homosexuals as resolved and adopted by the 2019 General Conference, or the actions or inactions of its annual conference related to these issues which follow."

Our disagreement with the United Methodist Church is much broader than the issue of human sexuality. We note that the actions or inactions of the UMC and the annual conference related to not following or ignoring Biblical teachings and core doctrines in the covenantal Book of Discipline contribute to our need to separate.

Therefore, the Church Council of Liberty Chapel would like to state, for the record, that this is our rationale for our decision to disaffiliate.

Another informational meeting will be held Sunday, August 14 in the sanctuary at 9:15 during the Sunday School hour when everyone will be welcome to ask questions and express opinions on this matter.

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My prayer is that Liberty Chapel will discern the will of God in this matter and will make the wisest decision for the future of our congregation. I also pray that we do this together. Whether or not we agree, my prayer is that we will remain together in harmony.

If you have any questions or concerns, please talk to one of our church leaders or to me.

In Christian love,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Pastor Brad".

Pastor Brad