

Friends,

In the spirit of transparency and clarity I have some news to share with you regarding our Strategic Discernment Process timeline which I presented at the Town-Hall meetings.

On Monday, August 8, I found out that the West District has already set our annual church conference for Wednesday, September 21, at 6:00pm.

This is the annual meeting at which we turn in much of our yearly paperwork and reports to the conference. This year in particular, this meeting would also serve as the meeting at which we would vote on disaffiliation/affiliation *should we decide to have such a vote*. I want to emphasize that we still have not made a decision to have such a vote - that decision will be made after we collect your input and do our diligence to resolve any questions you have.

The church office and administrative leaders will be preparing in both directions - to have all necessary paperwork complete should we remain in The United Methodist Church, but also be prepared to vote to disaffiliate should we determine to have such a vote. All of this work will be completed on September 21.

Because we need plenty of time to communicate about any potential vote for disaffiliation, our Strategic Discernment Process timeline has been altered from what I presented at the Town-Halls. Here's what you should know:

- All group gathering discernment conversations (Sunday school classes, choir, men's/women's groups) should be held no later than August 31st.
- All Small Group Feedback and Listening Sessions should be held no later than August 31st.
- The Straw Poll survey will go out sometime around August 25th.
- The September 21st conference date will lock in the unfunded pension liability amount we have been quoted, which is \$0.00 (zero dollars)
- This timeline still satisfies the conference's 40-day requirement.

What should you do?

- *If you signed up for a Small Group Session that is after August 31st*, Pastor Mark will work together with the host who signed up to arrange for a different time with all participants.
- *If you haven't signed up for a Small Group Session*, you should still sign up for one! Sign up sheets will be available before and after worship the next two Sundays.
- Consider putting Wednesday September 21, 6:00pm in your calendar.
- Find more resources for discernment at www.cameronfumc.com/discernmentprayer

Many blessings,
Pastor Mark