



Church Pathways from the UMC to the GMC

The Expensive Path: Disaffiliation

This is the path the conference insists we have to use. It is based on Paragraph 2553 of the UMC Discipline. It is now clear the conference seeks to require churches to pay pension liabilities based on an inflated, worst-case scenario formula. The conference also will seek apportionment payments that go well beyond our time in relationship with the UMC. We simply call all these payments "exit fees." Most churches can get a rough estimate of their exit fees by multiplying their annual conference tithes by 6, or multiplying their annual budget amount by 60 percent.

The Inexpensive but Unrecognized Path: Transfer

This is the graceful route the WCA has encouraged, as it allows us to create an environment very similar to what was stolen from us when General Conference was postponed until 2024, preventing the consideration of the Protocol legislation that was likely to pass. The spirit of graceful transfer is embedded in the Discipline's Paragraph 2548.2, which reads as follows:

"With the consent of the presiding bishop and of a majority of the district superintendents and of the district board of church location and building and at the request of the charge conference or a meeting of the membership of the local church, where required by local law, and in accordance with said law, the annual conference may instruct and direct the board of trustees of a local church to deed the church property to one of the other denominations represented in the Pan-Methodist Commission, or to another evangelical denomination under an allocation, exchange of property, or comity agreement, provided that such agreement shall have been committed in writing and signed and approved by the duly qualified and authorized representatives of both parties concerned."

While conference officials will not acknowledge it, transfer can be pursued. If your church wants to leave but finds disaffiliation to be obnoxious, contact the Holston WCA. You can email us at [***holstonwca@gmail.com***](mailto:holstonwca@gmail.com). Email us during the Holston Annual Conference, and we will arrange for you to meet with a board member.

The Path of Least Resistance

Church people who don't feel a strong tie to their property can simply begin meeting elsewhere, leaving their former facilities to the UMC to manage. We at the WCA will help these folks establish themselves as a congregation of the Global Methodist Church.