

**DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT'S MOTION TO THE FLORIDA ANNUAL  
CONFERENCE OF THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH FOR FORMAL  
CLOSURE OF  
LEALMAN COMMUNITY CHURCH, A UNITED METHODIST  
CONGREGATION, ST PETERSBURG, FLORIDA**

WHEREAS, after numerous discussions with the leadership of LEALMAN COMMUNITY CHURCH, A UNITED METHODIST CONGREGATION ("Lealman Community Church"), and extensive study and evaluation of the past, present and potential ministry and financial condition of Lealman Community Church, Rev. Dr. Candace M Lewis, District Superintendent of the Gulf Central District of the Florida Conference of The United Methodist Church ("Gulf Central District"), found that Lealman Community Church had struggled financially for some time and was no longer a vital, viable or self-sustaining congregation able to fulfill the mission of The United Methodist Church and the purposes for which it was organized; and

WHEREAS, Rev. Lewis reported her findings to a duly called church conference of Lealman Community Church held on November 15, 2018 (the "Church Conference"), and recommended to the Church Conference that Lealman Community Church be voluntarily closed and discontinued as a United Methodist Church congregation; and

WHEREAS, a majority of the members of Lealman Community Church in attendance at the Church Conference voted to (i) approve the closure and discontinuance of Lealman Community Church as of November 28, 2018 and (ii) voluntarily transfer title to all real, personal, tangible and intangible property and assets of Lealman Community Church, however titled, including without limitation, in the name LEALMAN METHODIST CHURCH OF ST. PETERSBURG, FLORIDA, INC., a Florida not for profit corporation (collectively, the "Assets") to THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE FLORIDA ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, INC., a Florida not for profit corporation ("Conference Board of Trustees") pursuant to *The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church* ("The Book of Discipline");

WHEREAS, deeds and other documentation necessary to transfer and vest title to the Assets in the Conference Board of Trustees were executed and delivered to the Conference Board of Trustees.

THEREFORE, I, Rev. Dr. Candace M Lewis, District Superintendent of the Gulf Central District, move that (i) Lealman Community Church be declared formally closed and discontinued pursuant to Section 2549.3.a) of *The Book of Discipline*, whereupon title to any Assets not previously conveyed shall vest in the Conference Board of Trustees and (ii) the memberships of Lealman Community Church be transferred to such other United Methodist congregations as the members may select.

Submitted by:

Rev. Dr. Candace M. Lewis, District Superintendent