



Disaffiliation Process Information & Resources

Church Has Voted to Disaffiliate!!!!

Thursday, February 2nd, Robertsdale United Methodist Church voted by a vote of **97 to 4** to disaffiliate from the United Methodist Church at a Church Conference. At this time we ARE STILL United Methodist, until the final vote at Annual Conference **May 7th**.

The next steps in the process were discussed at a Joel Council meeting Monday night.

March 15th is the deadline for the paperwork to be completed and turned in to the Annual Conference for consideration by the Cabinet, the Conference Trustees and to be put on the agenda for the Annual Conference special called session May 7th to be voted on by the members of the Annual Conference. The Joel Council is working through the many steps to assure that happens.

Andy Smith is a lawyer in Mobile helping churches to file the paperwork with the state, and he is helping us pro-bono (without charge, except for filing fees). All we will have to do is get him the name change and the paperwork will be filed. The paperwork he needs has already been submitted to him by the Joel Council.

The trustees of the Joel Council are looking into how to change the signage of the church. All changes must be made by May 8th. Questions have been asked about the cross and flame logo. After May 7th this church will no longer be allowed to use the logo in any way...except...if it is a part of the structure of the building, for example on the cornerstone. The United Methodist hymnals can still be used because anyone can go on Cokesbury site and order a hymnal for use in any church. The hymnal can be used by other denominations.

On May 7th (maybe the next day since that is a Sunday), the church would need to send payment to the Annual Conference for the full amount of the disaffiliation. At this time, the latest figure is about **\$108,000**. It has gone down from about \$260,000. We do not anticipate it going down any more and are working with the conference office to make sure of any other surprises. We have just heard from the Conference Trustees that they are attaching a \$750 fee for legal fees to disaffiliating churches. In essence, we will not have the final number for disaffiliation until the Conference Trustees meet and vote on the final # for our church. It will be around \$108,000.

So far we have gotten a little money trickling in designated for the disaffiliation fund. If you would like to give to it, earmark your check.

There is a process and still a road to travel...please, let's work together to see it through.



**The Book of
Discipline of the
Congregational
Methodist Church**

can be found on
Bookbaby. (just
google Discipline of
the Congregational
Methodist Church)
They are only \$20.
(The church can order
you one if you need
it...contact the Church
Office)

The Discipline is **ONLY
about 100 pages** so
please explore what
we are moving to.

**It is exciting to be a
part of a Church that
follows the
Discipline!!!**

**The members of the church voted 68 to 26 to join
the Congregational Methodist Church.**

- ESTABLISHED IN 1852
- FOUNDATIONAL WESLEYAN DOCTRINE
- SCRIPTURALLY FAITHFUL BOOK OF DISCIPLINE
- 150+ (REPORTING) CHURCHES PLUS 20+ IN MEXICO
- CHURCH LOCATIONS FROM TEXAS TO FLORIDA UP TO MISSOURI/TENNESSEE (PLUS NEW JERSEY)
- MIX OF TRADITIONAL AND CONTEMPORARY, OR "BLENDED", CHURCH WORSHIP STYLES
- EVANGELICAL FOCUS ON BUILDING GOD'S KINGDOM
 - FINANCIALLY SECURE AND ACCOUNTABLE
- EACH CHURCH OWNS THEIR OWN PROPERTY (NO TRUST CLAUSE)
- EACH CHURCH CALLS THEIR OWN PASTOR (ASSISTED BY CHURCH MINISTRIES DIVISION)
- CHURCHES ARE AUTONOMOUS THROUGH LOCAL DECISIONS OF MINISTRY AND GOVERNING
- NO HIERARCHICAL DENOMINATION STRUCTURE
- ELECTED PRESIDENT/VICE PRESIDENT AND OFFICERS
- DENOMINATIONAL SUPPORT STAFF AND DIVISION DIRECTORS
- GENERAL CONFERENCE (EVERY 2 YEARS) AND ANNUAL CONFERENCES ARE ALL DELEGATE-DRIVEN
- DENOMINATIONAL SUPPORT AND ANNUAL CONFERENCE ACTIVITIES FUNDED BY CHURCHES
- CHURCH TITHES TO CONFERENCES/MISSIONS DETERMINED BY EACH LOCAL CONGREGATION



After May 7th the church can no longer be called Robertsdale United Methodist Church.

Members have been submitting name ideas into the basket in Connection Cove. A list of the possible names that have been submitted is listed. The Joel Council has appointed a committee to narrow down the name choices (or come up with a new name altogether) to **3**. **February 19th**, after the morning worship service, the church members will vote on the 3 names. 2 votes will be taken. The first vote will eliminate one of the 3 names and the second vote will choose between the 2 remaining names. You must be present to vote.

The process is happening pretty quickly because the new name has to be on the legal documents which need to go to the lawyer and submitted to the State of Alabama before the paperwork for disaffiliation is submitted to the conference by **March 15th**.

******If you have any other suggestions please place them in the basket in Connection Cove.**

(Some were taken out if there was already a church in the area with that name)

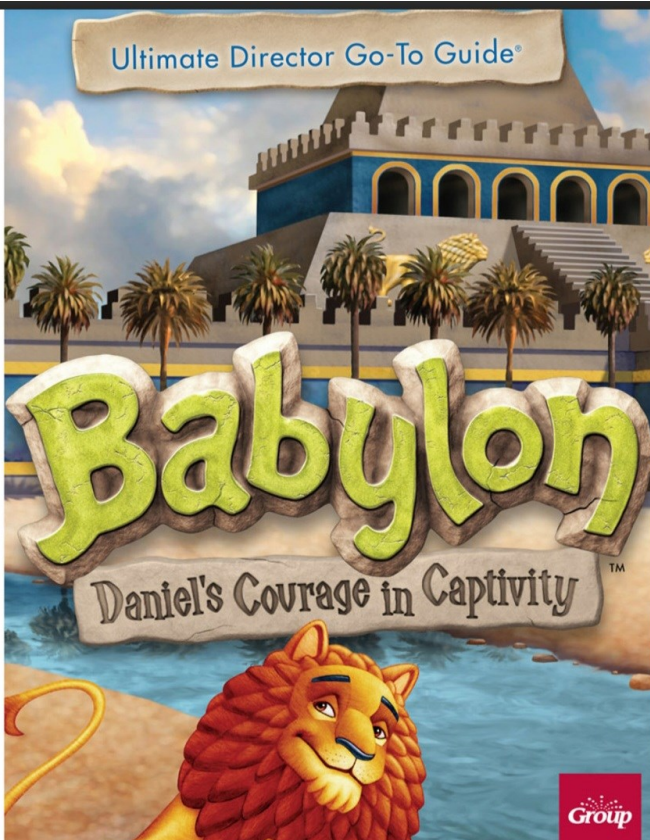
NAMES SUBMITTED:

Reset
 Robertsdale Hub City Methodist
 (Hub City Methodist)
 Robertsdale First Methodist
 First Step
 Church of Good News
 God's Kingdom Church
 Hope Eternal/ Eternal Hope
 Life Bridge
 New Hope Methodist
 Living Water
 Grace Chapel
 Trinity Chapel
 New Life Church
 Holy Trinity
 Holy Christian
 Awakened
 Restoration
 Eternal Trinity
 Grace Fellowship
 Church of the Redeemer
 City Church of Robertsdale
 Cross Movement
 Gracepoint
 Abundant Life
 Glad Tidings
 Seasons of Hope
 Cornerstone
 Robertsdale Methodist Church
 New Beginnings

Kids JAM

We have fruitcake totals. We made a little over \$6000 for our Children's Ministry. And now that we have decided as a church family our direction, we will continue on with our plans to get the large playground delivered and set up. There are still some hurdles, since they don't allow payment plans and the total cost is close to \$30,000, but we know from past experience that if it is for the good, it will happen. So be in prayer that doors open and we get this up before school starts back in the fall. That is our goal.

Mark your calendars for Vacation Bible School this year. It will be June 26th through 30th with the children singing in church on July 2nd. I absolutely need lots of volunteers where you feel led. Not everyone has to be a teacher. I need crafters for months leading up so children can feel the atmosphere change and can let their imaginations run wild. I need food preparers, helpers in the classes for projects, and of course wonderful teachers. Our service project this year will be "Water for Nations". I encourage you to read up on this and I will be going into more detail with the children. Our theme this year is "Babylon" and is about Daniel's courage in captivity.



We are in need of plastic eggs for our annual hunt as well as fillers. If you feel led to donate to this, please do so. You may drop off in the church office and we accept any/all types of candy. We will gather for fellowship time and the hunt on April 2nd at 2pm. A sign up list for the meal will be in connection cove starting in March.

Again, thank you to all who continue to support this ministry through prayers, presence, time, and gifts. You encourage me to continue doing what I love, preparing the hearts and minds of the next generation.

Friend in Christ,
Jessica McKinney



Service February 22 at 6:00pm

In the Sanctuary (following dinner)

Coffee/Donut Monday School - Monday 8:30am

Food Pantry - Monday 10:00am-12:00pm

Come & Go Coffee - Tuesday 8:30am– 10:00am

Wednesday Night Activities:

5:15 pm Supper

6:00 pm : JAM, Youth, Bible study, choir practice

Men's Prayer Group - Thursday 7:00am

Women's Bible Study - Thursday 10:00am at parsonage

Daylight Dominos - Friday 10:00am (1st and 3rd)

Preschool Chapel is every Wednesday morning at 10.



February 12th

Bring your favorite soup for a meal after church!

ALSO: Bring a **can of soup** for the food pantry!

***Crackers, tea and desserts are needed

CELEBRATE THE SUPER BOWL SUNDAY
WITH US!!!!

Dear RUMC Church Family,

I wanted to use this space this month to say thank you and to brag on the wonderful ministry to children that our church is doing! First, thank you! Thank you for caring about children. Thank you for allowing them to be kids, thank you for loving them well, and thank you for being patient with them. Youth and children continue to be involved in church, not because their parents make them attend or because of the games they play, but because of the church people who know them by name, who encourage them, pray for them, and serve them. Thank you for teaching Sunday School, volunteering at Sonshiners, serving meals to our youth, and visiting our children when they're sick. It matters immensely and is not wasted, even when it's exhausting. The way we love our children is one of my favorite things about our church!

-Jessica McKinney is doing a PHENOMENAL job as our Children's Director. She knows her kids, invests in them weekly, and teaches them God's Word. Last week she had 13 kids in JAM during worship, even with some of our regular kids not present. What an incredible blessing!

-Mrs. BJ and her team are doing an excellent job on Tuesday afternoons with Sonshiners. The group has grown steadily throughout the year, the kids are having fun, and even visiting our church because of relationships built through this vital ministry!

-Our Preschool is healthier than it has ever been! We're already nearly full for NEXT school year. Amanda Coggins and her staff of teachers pour into these little lives and their parents daily, praying for them, and sharing God's love with them. The kids at our preschool learn the Bible, are prepared for elementary school, and most importantly are taught about the God who desires relationship with them. Our school isn't just a business, it's a ministry of our church that's impacting lives daily.

-Katie Loeffler has created an atmosphere of community and grace in our nursery. She knows the little ones in her care, is gentle and patient with them, and makes sure that they're comfortable, their needs are met, and that they're loved. At our church, the nursery isn't just babysitting; it is a ministry. This Sunday they're even having a "God loves You" Valentines Day Party. We are blessed to have her on board!

-We had a total of 9 of our youth in worship on Sunday morning along with two youth helpers in their 20's. What an encouragement and blessing! They are the future (and present) of our church, and I'm excited to see this number continue to grow as we enter an exciting new season together!

Again, thank you for all you do to support each of these important ministries of our church! When you see Jessica, BJ, Amanda, and Katie, make sure to thank them for all they do, and ask how you can help! We have a great team!

Grace and Peace,
Wes Anderson
Youth & Family Pastor

