

# Ramifications of Separation and Costs

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LUMC DISCERNMENT PRESENTATION

NOVEMBER 19, 2023

# Doctrine

- With God as our guide, we would welcome all to worship as we yet are all sinners.
  - We would seek God's inspiration of the message from the Word each week.
  - We would use the resources we've been given to do the work of the Lord, as He directs.
  - We would allow the Holy Spirit to move us as we become a House of prayer and praise.
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# Identity

- We would no longer be “United Methodist”, but we could still be Leesville Methodist Church.
  - We would vote as a membership body about our new affiliation. We could remain independent or join another organization.
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# Financial

- The cost to separate will be approximately \$269,000, but we would then own our own property.
  - We would incur the cost to rebrand with a new logo of our choosing.
  - We would no longer pay apportionments, which are about \$38,000 per year, unless the new affiliation we choose requires it.
  - We would have autonomy to spend our money in a manner which supports our Biblical beliefs.
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# Property

- We would have our property deeded back to our church.
  - We would have full autonomy as a church to make decisions regarding the existing property and future property.
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# Structure

- Our church currently has a well-functioning structure with by-laws and committees that could remain in place.
  - Church Council would determine what changes would be needed.
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# Communications

- We would migrate our website to another host as we would no longer use UMCommunications.
  - Our church letterhead would need to reflect our new logo after we rebrand.
  - Any printed advertising materials would need to be updated with the new logo.
  - Our Facebook page would need to be updated with our new logo.
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# Missions

- Our church is very active in helping meet the needs of our community and beyond with mission projects. These would continue.
  - We could also choose to continue to support UMCOR and Epworth and other worthy UMC missions, should we choose.
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# UMC Groups

- The United Women in Faith would continue in name as their name does not associate them with the United Methodist Church. Their giving and recognition would no longer be tied to the UMC.
  - The United Methodist Men would need to change their name. Their missions are local projects and are not tied to the UMC.
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# Pastor

- The current pastor has made a choice to remain with the United Methodist Church.
  - Depending on our choice of affiliation, a pastor could be assigned to us. If not, we would pursue hiring a pastor who holds our same tenants of faith.
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# Membership

- If the membership votes to separate, each member will need to make a choice to continue worship in our church, or pursue a new church to attend.
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# Worship

- The membership may continue to use the purchased hymnals and pew Bibles we have.
  - If we pursue another Methodist organization's affiliation, we could continue with worship remaining the same.
  - If we become independent, we have the authority to honor and glorify God in the manner we desire.
  - The Worship Committee would lead in this process.
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# Educational Literature

- Each Adult Sunday School class chooses their own literature to use and would continue to do so.
  - The Sunday School material for children is published by Group Publishing. It is not affiliated with the United Methodist Church. There would be no change, unless it is deemed necessary by the Sunday School teachers.
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## \*Costs

\$	Cost
Cost to incorporate	\$1000
10% of Property Equity	\$140,700
10% of Liquid Assets	\$47,423
Next yr's. apportionments	\$38,564
Unfunded Pension	\$4000
Clergy Salary until Closure	Already budgeted
3-years insurance	\$36,000
Total	\$267, 687

\*The final cost will be determined by the SCUMC