



Central District

of the United Methodist Churches of Indiana

September 15, 2020

Plainfield United Methodist Church
600 Simmons Street
Plainfield, IN 46168

RE: Special Called Church Conference Process

I know this time of COVID-19 has presented many complexities in the life of ministry, but I hear Plainfield UMC has continued to be faithful in your witness and missional service...THANK YOU!

This letter is to acknowledge that I have received a request for a Special Called Church Conference in order to approve a long-term loan to pay for emergency roof and HVAC system replacements. This letter is to outline, that while we are in unprecedented times, I want to bring assurance that the process of conferencing is done faithfully and amidst the continued unknowns of COVID-19, this business will be conducted safely. To ensure both of those outcomes are fulfilled, I have detailed below the Special Called Church Conference process for Plainfield UMC:

- **Town Hall Meetings:** These three town hall sessions will be convened to hear the presenting motion for the Special Called Church Conference, and provide an opportunity for members of the congregation to be heard and submit possible amendments that will be considered by the Administrative Council in preparation for the final vote. These town hall sessions are as follows:
 - **Town Hall 1:** *Wednesday, October 7, 2020 at 7:00pm*, held in-person at Plainfield UMC (all safety guidelines will be strictly followed)
 - **Town Hall 2:** *Sunday, October 11, 2020 at 2:00pm*, via ZOOM for which the information will be circulated in advance. This ZOOM town hall will be recorded and placed on the church website for viewing.
 - **Town Hall 3:** *Wednesday, October 14, 2020 at 7:00pm*, held in-person at Plainfield UMC (all safety guidelines will be strictly followed)

At the conclusion of the last town hall session, the Administrative Council will convene to finalize and publish the motion in its final form (*no other amendments will be considered*).

- **Church Conference Voting:** This voting process is to ensure the continued safety for the members of Plainfield UMC. All those who choose to participate, will remain in their vehicles, and volunteers will bring out a paper form and clipboard with the final motion noted, for all to offer their witness to the presenting motion; via a YES or NO. *All voting must be completed in-person, no proxy or mail-in votes will be considered.*

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- *Wednesday, October 28, 2020 between 5:30pm-7:30pm* at Plainfield UMC, via the drive thru at Door 9.

I will be present during the Church Conference Voting process and will work with the Charge Conference Secretary and Administrative Council Chairperson to validate the gathered votes and the final outcome.

- **Special Called Church Conference Results:** I will convene a ZOOM meeting, for all to participate, to announce the results of the Special Called Church Conference. This ZOOM will be, no more than, 15 minutes to render the results.

There has been prayerful consideration for how to convene this Special Called Church Conference for Plainfield UMC. There has been careful thought to ensure this process aligns with the spirit of the 2016 Book of Discipline, while also navigating handling the business of the Church during this global pandemic.

If you have questions or need further clarification, please contact my office.

Many Thanks and Blessings!

Dr. Alez W. Fulbright

Conference (District) Superintendent
Serving with the Laity, Clergy, and Communities of the Central District