

**1. You will take pledges, but not let people vote who cannot get to church!!!!**

This is a General Conference mandate. This is a requirement for all important local church votes, not just for a disaffiliation vote.

**2. Why are all the meetings in May when the deadline isn't until Dec.**

The Cokesbury Discernment Team desires to get information out and begin Listening & Conversation meetings as soon as possible. This is the beginning of the discernment process. If this leads to a vote for disaffiliation, then that vote will likely take place in late Summer.

**3. Please announce meetings, & ask for questions! Do not hide box.**

The meetings have been and are currently publicized in the E-news/newsletter, pre-service announcement slides, and bulletin announcements.

Listening & Conservation meetings are scheduled for:

May 10, 6 PM

May 11, 11 AM

May 20, 10 AM

May 24, 6 PM

May 25, 11 AM

The Questions Box is in the Connect Corner in the Atrium, where it was announced that it would be in the newsletter.

**4. Is the discernment process being equally told?**

The Cokesbury Discernment Team is making every effort to present information from both sides.

**5. Why are we only discussing disaffiliation, I want to hear from people on the side of staying.**

The Cokesbury Discernment Team is making every effort to present information from both sides.

**6. Why are all the facilitators selected & appointed by the pastor?**

The Cokesbury Discernment Team is comprised of all elected committee chairs, the Lay Leader and the Lay Delegates to the Annual Conference. These individuals were nominated via the Cokesbury Nominations Committee and were ratified by the Church Council and at Charge Conference.

**7. Confused on where our church stands/view on this.**

The church's stance is reflected in the desires of its members. To disaffiliate or not is a deeply personal decision for each professing member. If the discernment process leads to a vote, then a 2/3 majority (of professing members physically present on the date of the vote) will decide Cokesbury's future.

**8. Give date of voting so people can make plans!!!**

The Cokesbury Church Council must vote to advance from the discernment phase to a vote for disaffiliation. If this takes place the disaffiliation vote date will be well communicated at least 10 days in advance including 2 Sundays. A potential vote to disaffiliate would likely take place in the late Summer timeframe.

**10. Could we have someone from the United Methodist Church speak/attend a couple of the meetings? (Someone from district or higher)**

The Cokesbury Discernment Team is working on possibilities. The District Superintendent will hold a Town Hall Meeting at Cokesbury before the process proceeds past the discussion phase.

**11. Why are we putting property into this situation? Those that don't want to be part of the UMC could leave and form their own church!!**

The General Conference has established a process where individual churches can decide their future with a 2/3 majority vote (of professing members physically present on the date of the vote) to disaffiliate from the UMC and removes the Trust Clause which allows them to retain the church property.

**12. Why can't we wait until after conference to vote?**

We are now in the discernment phase of the process. At this point no decision has been made to proceed to a vote for disaffiliation. A vote for disaffiliation must be put forward by the Cokesbury Church Council.

**13. Do we have to vote? Two churches in the area did not vote. Members that want to go Global are leaving on their own!!**

After the discernment period the Cokesbury Church Council decides whether to go forward with a vote for disaffiliation.