



REYNOLDSBURG
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

June 6, 2022

Dear Members and Friends of Reynoldsburg UMC,

Greetings in the name of Jesus—who has called and placed us in ministry together! We write to share that on May 25, our Church Board unanimously agreed to begin the process for Reynoldsburg UMC to leave our current denomination—the United Methodist Church (UMC)—and become part of the newly formed Global Methodist Church.

Earlier today, we sent a letter to our Bishop, Gregory V. Palmer, and our District Superintendent, Dr. Tim Bias, requesting the setting of a date for a called Church Conference (where all professing church members are welcome to participate with voice and vote) in late September or early October.

The initiation of this process will not be complete until the members of our congregation who are present and voting at that Church Conference act on our Church Board's recommendation and its related details. To those who regularly attend worship (either in person or online), this decision is probably not a surprise—but some reading this may not be aware of the reasons this Board decision was necessary.

During the next four months, we will be communicating the details for why our church leadership believes this is the best decision for our congregation at this time. The short version is: There is ongoing misalignment between the traditional doctrine of Wesleyan Methodism and the teachings and practices of many churches within the denomination. For some time, the UMC has been dysfunctional and unable to resolve these disparate theological visions through its institutional processes. As a result, the institution of the UMC has become ungovernable.

The Global Methodist Church (which Pastor Jeff has been helping to form behind the scenes for the last six years) launched on May 1 of this year, and we are excited about its mission and future. Enclosed with this letter, you will find a basic fact sheet—which is the first step in our effort to inform and educate our congregation on the rationale and process our Church Board is recommending.

We encourage you to pay particular attention to the following:

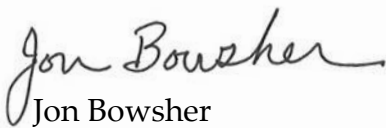
- Pastor Jeff will be sharing expanded details about why we believe it is time for us to make this transition at a **congregation-wide gathering on Sunday, June 26 at 4:00 PM**. All persons who call Reynoldsburg UMC their church home (members as well as non-members) are welcome and encouraged to attend—either in person or online. An ice cream social will follow Pastor Jeff's presentation—in the Community Center Banquet Rooms. To ensure we have enough refreshments, we appreciate you registering for this event by visiting: ReynoldsburgUMC.com/GMC.

- A “**Frequently Asked Questions**”—or **FAQ document** will be distributed to all who attend the event on June 26. We’ve also created a web page where information related to the Church Board’s recommendation can be found once it’s released. You can visit that page here: ReynoldsburgUMC.com/GMC.
- It is a requirement of our current denominational discipline that **only professing members of our congregation are able to cast a vote at a Church Conference**. If you are uncertain of your membership status, please email Sonya Sexton (ssexton@rumc.org) or call the church office (614-866-5864), and she will be able to confirm your membership status. If you’re not a member and would like to join our congregation in order to have a voice and vote in this historic decision, our **next new member class** will be held Thursday, July 7 at 7:00 PM or Saturday, July 9 at 9:30 AM. New members will be received during morning worship services on Sunday, July 17 (or at a later date if they are unable to attend July 17). Please use the above contact information for Sonya Sexton if you would like to be included in the next new member class.
- Please be in **fervent prayer** for our church leadership and members as we prayerfully discern the next right step for our congregation. Our heart’s desire is to be in step with God’s best and pleasing will for our future.
- Please continue to **support our congregation** with your prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness. Your participation and support have never been more crucial.

If you have further questions or would like to talk with Pastor Jeff, he can be reached by email (jgreenway@rumc.org) or by calling the church office (614-866-5864). He will be glad to talk with you and answer any questions you may have.

We are excited about what the future holds for our church and are praying God will grant us wisdom, courage, and faith for the living of these days!

In Christ,



Jon Bowsher
Church Board, Chair



Jeff Greenway
Lead Pastor

enclosure