



BROAD STREET
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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To my Broad Street Family,

I am writing this letter to inform you of a South Carolina Conference decision released earlier this week. This action is centered around division within the United Methodist Church. I am sorry that this has to come up during this joyful season of Christmas, but it has been in and on the news, so I wanted you to have access to the information directly. South Carolina has been the only conference not allowing churches to leave the denomination. This South Carolina Conference decision has now provided a process for those churches in our state that have already expressed their desire to leave.

What does this mean for Broad Street? I hope we keep centered on the church's mission of "making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world" and "Building Servants United in Ministry with Christ." I feel like any action is premature. If the need arises for us to have a period of discernment, I will work with our church leaders to begin that process.

I am including the link to the conference website discussing the process. Again, I don't think we need to rush into taking any action. General Conference will be in 2024 and will offer much more information. Until then, let's keep focusing on our mission and loving God and our neighbors.

Link to the conference information: www.umcsc.org/discern/

Grace and Peace,

Rev. Justin L. Ritter
Pastor