

REC 25-11 | CLOSURE OF WESTMONT UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

SUBJECT: Closure of Westmont United Methodist Church, Pomona Valley, CA

SUBMITTED BY: Appointive Cabinet

WHEREAS, Westmont United Methodist Church, located in Pomona in the East District, has faithfully served its community from 1884 through worship, discipleship, and mission; and

WHEREAS, the church has struggled to effectively maintain and carry out its mission and ministries for over a decade; and

WHEREAS, the membership of the church has declined to five remaining members, who have discerned that it is no longer sustainable to continue as an active congregation; and

WHEREAS, the Church Conference of Westmont United Methodist Church was held on January 15, 2025 and the remaining membership voted to discontinue as a church; and

WHEREAS, the consent to discontinue has been granted by the presiding bishop and the cabinet, and the East District Board of Church Location and Building pursuant to 2020/2024 Book of Discipline ¶2549.2.(4).b; and

WHEREAS, the five remaining members of Westmont United Methodist Church will be transferred to Montclair United Methodist Church and received into its care and fellowship; and

WHEREAS, the remaining cash assets around \$2,000 of Westmont United Methodist Church as of the closure date shall be transferred to the Montclair UMC.

WHEREAS, Pomona Valley Chinese United Methodist Church, a nesting congregation at Westmont United Methodist Church, is currently exploring the possible transfer of the property title; and

WHEREAS, these discussions are ongoing and additional time will be needed before a final determination regarding the future of the property can be made;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the California-Pacific Conference of The United Methodist Church, meeting in regular session on June 12-14, 2025, approves the formal closure of Westmont United Methodist Church, effective June 30, 2025; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Cabinet will report to the 42nd Annual Session of the California-Pacific Conference in 2026 regarding the disposition of Westmont UMC's property.