

1 **REC 26-14 | CLOSURE OF SAN GABRIEL FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

2 **SUBJECT:** Closure and Property Disposition of San Gabriel First United Methodist Church, San  
3 Gabriel, CA

4 **SUBMITTED BY:** Appointive Cabinet

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6 **WHEREAS,** San Gabriel First United Methodist Church has borne Christian witness within the  
7 East District for more than 110 years, partnering in God’s mission and nurturing disciples since the  
8 congregation's founding in 1915; and

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10 **WHEREAS,** in 2023, the majority of the membership silently left The United Methodist Church  
11 over disagreements regarding human sexuality matters, leaving behind a remaining membership that  
12 could no longer financially or operationally sustain the local ministry; and

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14 **WHEREAS,** the remaining congregation, after prayerful discernment and grief, held its final service  
15 of worship on June 29, 2025; and

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17 **WHEREAS,** the consent to discontinue has been granted by the presiding Bishop, the Cabinet, and  
18 the East District Board of Church Location and Building pursuant to the Book of Discipline ¶2549;  
19 and

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21 **WHEREAS,** the physical property is currently providing vital connectional sanctuary and housing  
22 for Altadena United Methodist Church, a congregation that tragically lost its own facility to the  
23 Eaton Fire in January 2025; and

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25 **WHEREAS,** it is the hope and strategic intent of the Appointive Cabinet to retain ownership of this  
26 asset rather than place it on the market for sale, so that once Altadena United Methodist Church  
27 completes its rebuild and returns to its original location, the San Gabriel facility can be designated as  
28 a permanent spiritual home for another United Methodist congregation currently nesting in a  
29 different site;

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31 **THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that the California-Pacific Conference of The United  
32 Methodist Church approves the formal closure of San Gabriel First United Methodist Church,  
33 effective June 30, 2026; and

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35 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that the East District will be in conversation with the Conference  
36 Board of Trustees regarding oversight and management for the continued advancement of the  
37 missional priorities within the East District.