

**REC 26-15 | CLOSURE OF YOUNG HWA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

SUBJECT: Closure of Young Hwa United Methodist Church, Los Angeles.

SUBMITTED BY: Appointive Cabinet

WHEREAS, from approximately January 22, 1979 until July 30, 2025, Young Hwa was a United Methodist church within the boundaries of the California-Pacific Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church (the “Annual Conference”) and the West District; and

WHEREAS, Young Hwa and its trustees were subject to The United Methodist Church’s *Book of Discipline*; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the *Book of Discipline*, all real and personal property of Young Hwa was impressed with a trust for the benefit of The United Methodist Church; and

WHEREAS, Young Hwa owned a parcel of property located at 214 South Loma Drive, Los Angeles, CA 90026, bearing APN 5153-017-008; and

WHEREAS, in 1996, Young Hwa received a conditional donation of \$8,341.20 from the Annual Conference, in exchange for which Young Hwa executed a deed of trust; and

WHEREAS, for reasons unknown, in 2019, Hyun and Sang, acting as officers of Young Hwa, caused Young Hwa to convey its real property to the Mission Foundation via a quitclaim deed; and

WHEREAS, this transfer was in violation of the *Book of Discipline* and its trust provisions, was *ultra vires*, and was ineffective to dissolve the Annual Conference’s beneficial interest in the real property of Young Hwa; and

WHEREAS, Young Hwa, Hyun, and Sang refused to respond to numerous communications from the West District regarding the transfer; and

WHEREAS, due to these actions, the Resident Bishop of the Annual Conference, the West District Superintendent, the District Superintendents of the East, North, South, and Hawaii Districts, and the West District Board of Church Location and Mission closed Young Hwa pursuant to ¶2549 of the *Book of Discipline*; and

WHEREAS, such closure caused all real and personal property of Young Hwa, including the real property which Hyun and Sang had purported to convey to the Mission Foundation, to vest in the Annual Conference’s board of trustees; and

WHEREAS, it is the policy of the Annual Conference in such situations not to hold title to the property of a closed local church, but to designate the respective district – in this case, the West District – as the Annual Conference’s agent with the authority to take possession of the closed local church’s property; and

WHEREAS, having been duly appointed by the Annual Conference, the West District filed the lawsuit entitled *West District Union of The California-Pacific Annual Conference of The United*

1 *Methodist Church v. Young Hwa United Methodist Church, et al.* (Case No. 25STCV30136) (the  
2 “Action”); and

3  
4 WHEREAS, the West District and Defendants wish to compromise, resolve, and settle the disputes  
5 between them and the Action itself on the terms set forth in this Agreement; and,

6  
7 NOW, THEREFORE, in exchange for the promises and obligations set forth below and other good  
8 and valuable consideration, the receipt of which is hereby acknowledged, the parties agree as follows:

- 9 1. Conveyance of Real Property to the West District by executing a quitclaim deed in the  
10 presence of a notary public recording the same with the Los Angeles County Recorder at its  
11 own expense and providing a copy of the recorded document to the West District’s attorney,  
12 and
- 13 2. Transfer ½ of all funds in the possession of Young Hwa UMC as of July 30, 2025, payable  
14 to the West District Union of the California Pacific Annual Conference of the United  
15 Methodist Church, and
- 16 3. Young Hwa Foundation maintain insurance, upkeep property, and remain at the property  
17 until December 31, 2026, and

18  
19 NOW, THEREFORE, all the promises and obligations set forth by the West District and the  
20 Defendants have been satisfactorily met, evidenced by receipt of recorded property documents,  
21 transfer of funds and promise by Young to end their time at the property on December 31, 2026,  
22 and

23  
24 NOW, THEREFORE, request that the Annual Conference formally close Young Hwa United  
25 Methodist Church, and the West District will report back to the 2027 Annual Conference about  
26 what will be done with the property.