

REC 26-16 | CLOSURE OF THE CHARTER OF CHAPEL OF THE VALLEY UMC

SUBJECT: Closure of the Charter of Chapel of the Valley UMC – El Cajon CA – South District
SUBMITTED BY: Appointive Cabinet

WHEREAS, Chapel of the Valley has faithfully served the community of El Cajon since 1957.

WHEREAS, the congregation has been dwindling in membership and struggling to maintain a vibrant ministry as a worshipping congregation.

WHEREAS, a few years ago the congregation and district leadership started to look into ways to preserve ministry and create a legacy for Chapel of the Valley UMC. One of the ways was to create what is called “The Shalom Village.” This is a project that would bring affordable housing, medical services and preschool children’s education. Both medical and preschool ministry are in place at the present time.

WHEREAS, the members of Chapel of the Valley UMC have made a thorough assessment of the current congregation’s viability for sustained ministry as a Chartered United Methodist church, in accordance with the guidelines of ¶ 213 of the 2020/2024 *Book of Discipline* (“*Discipline*”), and

WHEREAS, a Special Charge Conference was properly convened on June 10, 2026, and the five members present in the church conference voted to approve the recommendation by the South District Superintendent that the Charter for Chapel of the Valley UMC be discontinued, and

WHEREAS, the District Superintendent and District Committee of Building and Locations recommend discontinuance of Chapel of the Valley UMC, and

WHEREAS, the consent to discontinue has been granted by the presiding Bishop, and all of the District Superintendents; and

WHEREAS, the District Superintendent has instructed the church to maintain the Corporation status of the church that will develop the “Shalom Village Project.”

WHEREAS the District Superintendent has obtained the opinion of legal counsel as to the existence of any reversion, possibilities of reverter, right of reacquisition or similar restrictions pursuant to *Discipline*, ¶ 2549.2(a)(2),

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Chapel of the Valley UMC be discontinued on June 30, 2026. Keeping the Chapel of the Valley Church Corporation (Corporation) in function.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that as of July 1, 2026, the members of the discontinued Chapel of the Valley UMC open as a Missional Congregation according to *Discipline*, ¶ 259.1(a) retaining their GCFA# for statistical reporting purposes according to GCFA guidelines.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Corporation be the overseer of the Shalom Village Project and seek for to maintain and provide support to the new mission congregation.

1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Corporation may hold title in trust for the California-Pacific
2 Conference of the United Methodist Church.