

## Clergy Withdrawal – 360.1

1. ¶ 360.1 will be used whenever ordained clergy members in good standing wish to withdraw either to unite with another denomination or simply to terminate their membership in The United Methodist Church.

In all such cases, ¶ 360.1 requires that the clergy member deposit 1) their certification of conference membership (or a note if a certificate does not exist) and 2) a notarized, written request to withdraw their membership with their District Superintendent, both of which ultimately will be deposited with the Conference Secretary.

Furthermore, if a withdrawing clergy member wishes to retain their ordination credentials, their certificate of ordination will be inscribed **on the face of the credentials** by the District Superintendent's office with the following inscription and a copy of the ordination credentials, so inscribed, will be deposited with the Conference Secretary:

"The \_\_\_\_\_ Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church recognizes that (name of clergy member) has withdrawn from conference membership and altogether from the ministry of The United Methodist Church."

If a certificate of ordination no longer exists, a letter should be presented to the clergy member stating the same (signed by the clergy member and Conference Secretary, and notarized) and a copy of the letter will be deposited with the Conference Secretary.

For clergy appointed to a disaffiliating church or whose charge conference membership resides with a disaffiliating church, this process must be completed prior to the church's date of disaffiliation.

## Clergy Withdrawal – 360.2

2. ¶ 360.2 will be used when an ordained clergy member in good standing is withdrawing from conference membership and from the ministerial office entirely.

In those instances, the clergy member shall surrender both their certification of conference membership and certification of ordination, giving both to the District Superintendent to be deposited with the Conference Secretary. In addition, the clergy member shall deposit a notarized, written request to withdraw their membership and from the ministerial office with their District Superintendent, which ultimately will be deposited with the Conference Secretary.

For clergy appointed to a disaffiliating church or whose charge conference membership resides with a disaffiliating church, this process must be completed prior to the church's date of disaffiliation.