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New El Bethel Conway Charge Conference Reports

New El Bethel United Methodist Church, Conway

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Minutes of the Charge Conference, 2020

The Charge Conference for the Antioch/New El Bethel Charge of the Marion District of the South Carolina Annual Conference was held 10/31/2020 at Antioch UMC chaired by Rev. Richard Knight.
 A devotional service was conducted by Rev. Knight.
 The following members were present (see attached sheet).

I. Mission

The mission of the United Methodist Church is to make and nurture disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. Achieving a bold mission requires setting intentional goals. Please be prepared to dialogue about the following questions at Charge Conference. If your church doesn't have formal goals, then discuss programs/ministries that fulfill the mission of the church.

A. What were your key goals for making and nurturing disciples for this past year?

Through the proclamation of the Word every Sunday, Rev. Knight and Rev. Ricketts encourage and challenge members and visitors to grow in their faith and discipleship. A charge Lenten Bible Study began (but was not completed because of the COVID-19 pandemic), and it's possible a Zoom Advent Study will be held to help nurture members in their spiritual growth.

B. How are you making progress towards reaching the goals stated above?

Every week, Rev. Knight and Rev. Ricketts are seeking to proclaim the Good News of Jesus and to teach God's Word so that those who don't know Christ as their Savior will come to know Him and so that believers will be encouraged to grow in their faith and discipleship.

C. Among these goals, what are you most excited about?

No formal goals were established at Antioch and New El Bethel United Methodist Churches.

Church Vitality

D. While numbers are not the only factor of vitality, they are helpful in providing clarity of our church's present reality. Please use the data you reported in your 2018 and 2019 Statistical Tables.

Church	Year	Avg. Worship Attendance (Question 7, Table 1)	Total Professing Members (Question 4, Table 1)	Avg. Sunday School Attendance (Question 13, Table 1)	Total Number of People in Christian Formation Groups (Question 11, Table 1)
Antioch	2019	24	72	0	18
	2018	24	64	0	15
New El Bethel	2019	44	122	5	11
	2018	37	115	0	15

Church	Year	Received on Prof of Faith through Confirmation (Question 2a, Table 1)	Received on Prof. of Faith (not in Confirmation) (Question 2b, Table 1)
Antioch	2019	4	0
	2018	0	0
New El Bethel	2019	0	0
	2018	0	0

E. Tools for Planning

What is your church/charge's specific plan to reach new people for Jesus Christ? What tools are you using to foster growth (i.e. Forward Focus, Natural Church Development, SHIFT, Ken Callahan's "Twelve Keys to an Effective Church" etc.)?

The main tool being used right now to reach new people for Jesus Christ is the Facebook Live service. People can "view" the service every Sunday at 10:30 a.m. or see the recorded service on the Antioch and New El Bethel web sites after Sunday morning. Church members will continue to invite neighbors and friends to worship services, and mission projects will be a channel through which people may come to the churches, find the warmth of Christian fellowship, and perhaps make decisions to accept Jesus as their Savior and Lord.

II. Nurture

A. Does your church/charge have a visitation program? Please describe.

B. Does your church/charge have a congregational care program (i.e. Stephen's Ministry, divorce care, counseling center, grief group, etc.)? Please describe.
 No, but since the churches on the Antioch/New El Bethel Charge are small, the members are very good about reaching out to one another, especially through difficult times.

III. Outreach and Witness

A. How is your church/charge reaching out in service to the community and the world?
 Both Antioch and New El Bethel continue a food collection ministry every second Sunday for Children's Assisting People (CAP). This year, both churches collected school supplies and personal care/hygiene supplies for a ministry called Fostering Hope, which provides items for children in the Foster Care system. New El Bethel had a Winter Clothes Giveaway and Soup Lunch in October of 2019, which was a great way to reach people who needed clothes and a hot meal. From time to time, Antioch packages hygiene kits for times when natural disasters strike. At Christmas, both churches collect money to purchase gifts for children so they can have a blessed Christmas. This year, we may participate in Operation Christmas Child through Samaritan's Purse, and encourage members to fill shoeboxes to be distributed throughout the world

What is the number of persons from your church/charge serving in mission/community ministries? (Question #22, Table 1 of Statistical Tables, Year End 2019)

Church	Number of Persons
Antioch	8
New El Bethel	12

B. How has your church/charge engaged in ministry with children, youth, and young adults beyond your local church this year (i.e. Scouts, Child Care, Basketball League, school partnerships, dialogues, etc.)? How did these experiences impact the mission and ministry of your church/charge?
 See Section A. above.

C. Has your church/charge engaged in ministry with other United Methodist Churches, with ecumenical partners, and in cross racial/cultural experiences (i.e. pulpit or choir exchanges, joint

No. projects, dialogues, etc.)? How did these experiences impact the mission and ministry of your church/charge?

IV. Submit the following:

- A. Report of the Church Council (Oral composite report: plus any other written reports such as UMW, UMM, UMYF)
- B. Report of the Pastor (State of Church. ¶ 340 BOD 2016, Continuing Education Report).
- C. Reports of other clergy and applicable Continuing Education Reports (all categories)
- D. Report of Trustees
- E. *Report of the Committee on Nominations and Leadership Development – print copies for members of Charge Conference
 - PPRC Roster
 - Lay Member to 2020 Annual Conference – do not print; submit names online
 - Official Roll and Attendance Record for 2020 – print copies for District Superintendent and Secretary for keeping roll at Council meetings
- F. *Recommended Ministerial Support
- G. Accountable Reimbursement Policy
- H. 2020 Budget
- I. Treasurer's Report
- J. Report of the Committee on Finance
- K. Parsonage Report
- L. Report of Local Church(es) Safe Sanctuary Policy (Attach Copies)
- M. Epworth Children's Home Local Church Representative – do not print; submit name on Nominations and Leadership Report
- N. Conference or District Nomination form – do not print; submit names online

*Vote required at charge conference

V. Personnel

- 1. Who are recommended by the Pastor/Parish Relations Committee: (*v = vote, *v 2/3 = two thirds vote)
 - a. as candidates for ordained ministry (¶¶ 258.2(g)9, 310.1(e)) (*v 2/3)?
 - b. for continuation as candidates for ordained ministry (¶¶ 258.2(g)9, 310.1(e)) (*v)?
- 2. List the names of the persons the church has given to the United Methodist Ministry?
- 3. Who are recommended as Local Church Lay Servants (¶ 266) (*v)?
 - a. New:
Name(s)
 - b. Renewed:
Name(s)
Donna Callhoun, Beata Lisandrelli, Paul Lisandrelli, Randall Mishoe, Willa Mae Mishoe

4. Who are recommended as Certified Lay Servants (§ 266) (*v)?
- a. New:
Name(s)
- b. Recertified:
Name(s)
5. Who are recommended as Certified Lay Speakers (§ 267) (*v)?
- a. New:
Name(s)
- b. Recertified:
Name(s)
6. Who are recommended as Certified Lay Ministers (§ 268) (*v)?
- a. New:
Name(s)
- b. Recertified:
Name(s)

VI. Stewardship

One way the local church participates in the world wide mission of the church is through apportionments (§ 247.14).

Church Antioch

- A. What percent of apportionments were paid in 2019? 100
What do you expect to pay in 2020? 100
- B. If you are not paying 100% of your apportionments, please explain why, and what are your plans to move toward 100% payment?
- C. Are you up to date on Direct Billing? does not apply
If not, what is your current balance and plan to address it?
- Do you plan to enroll in the Conference Forgiveness Plan? does not apply
- D. Has a 2019 Audit been completed and report submitted to the District Office? yes no

Church New El Bethel

- A. What percent of apportionments were paid in 2019? 100
What do you expect to pay in 2020? 100
- B. If you are not paying 100% of your apportionments, please explain why, and what are your plans to move toward 100% payment?
- C. Are you up to date on Direct Billing? does not apply
If not, what is your current balance and plan to address it?

Do you plan to enroll in the Conference Forgiveness Plan? does not apply _____

D. Has a 2019 Audit been completed and report submitted to the District Office? yes no

Church _____

A. What percent of apportionments were paid in 2019? _____
What do you expect to pay in 2020? _____

B. If you are not paying 100% of your apportionments, please explain why, and what are your plans to move toward 100% payment?

C. Are you up to date on Direct Billing? _____
If not, what is your current balance and plan to address it?

Do you plan to enroll in the Conference Forgiveness Plan? _____

D. Has a 2019 Audit been completed and report submitted to the District Office? yes no

Richard A. Knight
Presiding Elder or District Superintendent

Willa Mae Miskoe
Secretary

Report of Pastor 2020

The report of the pastor in charge shall include the names of all persons involved in the changes in membership and other items outlined in the 2016 *Book of Discipline* (¶¶ 234, 340). This report should cover as fully as possible the work of the pastor. Care should be taken not to duplicate the reports of the Church Council, committees, organizations, and officers of the charge.

Copies of this report should be filed with the recording secretary, pastor, district superintendent, and chairperson of witness or evangelism ministries.

New El Bethel _____ Church
Marion _____ District

Antioch/New El Bethel _____ Charge
South Carolina Conference

For the period beginning 09/16/2019 _____, 2019 and ending 10/31/2020 _____, 2020.

(Note: This report runs from Charge Conference to Charge Conference.)

1. List those who have been received into baptized membership since last report (Record names and dates). If you need more space please attach as a supplement.

- a. Infants baptized since last report.

Name	Date

- b. All others: children, youth, and adults baptized since last report.

Name	Date

2. List those who have been received into professing membership since the last report. (Record names and dates). If you need more space please attach as a supplement.

- a. On profession of faith or restored.

Name	Date

- b. From other United Methodist churches.

Name	Date
George McGarvey	10/18/2020
Donna McGarvey	10/18/2020

c. From other non-United Methodist churches.

Name	Date

3. List those who have been removed from the professing membership since last report. (Record names and dates). If you need more space please attach as a supplement.

a. By action of the Charge Conference, or trial court, or withdrawal.

Name	Date

b. By transfer to other United Methodist churches.

Name	Date

c. By transfer to other non-United Methodist churches.

Name	Date

d. By death.

Name	Date
Flora Dell Martin	09/25/2020

4. Have the membership rolls been audited? No

a. ~~If not, why not?~~
We were planning to begin auditing the membership roll, but the pandemic stopped the process before we could begin it.

b. Who has moved from your community since the last Charge Conference?

c. What has been done to relate them to another church?

5. The Pastor shall give a report on the State of the Church (Please do not duplicate report of the Church Council or other committees. Only the highlight, from the pastor's perspective, the major issues or events related to the health of the church). (Attach as a supplement.)

6. The Pastor shall give an account of pastoral ministry as it relates to (§ 340): Elders have a fourfold ministry of Word, Sacrament, Order and Service. Please describe how you have fulfilled your calling this year in the following ways: (Attach as a supplement.)
- a. Preach and teach the Word.
 - b. Provide pastoral care and counsel.
 - c. Administer the sacraments.
 - d. Order the life of the church for service in mission and ministry.
 - e. Include as a part of the report a statement outlining the pastor's program of continuing education and spiritual growth for the past year and plans for the year to come (§ 351). (Attach as a supplement.)

Signed Richard H. Knight

Printed Name Richard H. Knight

Date 10/07/2020

PASTOR'S REPORT
Antioch/New El Bethel Charge
2020

Following the Antioch/New El Bethel Charge Conference on September 16, 2019, Darrell Ricketts and I were continuing to enjoy our ministry with the wonderful people of the Antioch and New El Bethel congregations. We finished 2019 having done the following:

1. Monthly youth gatherings at Antioch;
2. Homecoming at both churches;
3. Men's and women's breakfast meetings at New El Bethel;
4. Fellowship Gathering and Supper at Antioch;
5. Winter clothes "give-away" and soup lunch at NEB;
6. All Saints observance;
7. Chicken bog fund-raiser at NEB;
8. Antioch Revival;
9. Charge Advent Bible Study;
10. Christmas Fellowship Meals at both churches;
11. Christmas Eve Communion Services, Darrell leading the one at NEB and me at Antioch.

Of course, Darrell and I continued to alternate Sundays preaching at Antioch and New El Bethel, and I cannot overemphasize how thankful I am for Darrell's partnership in ministry at the charge. He is certainly a dear friend as well as my Associate Pastor!

Darrell and I met at the end of 2019 to plan our ministry for the first several months of 2020, not knowing that there would be an "interruption" in a few short months, an "interruption" that would change the course of our ministry for the year. We were excited about what God was planning for Antioch and New El Bethel in the New Year. For two and a half months, we worshipped "as usual" and again met with the Antioch youth, had fellowship meals, enjoyed breakfasts with the NEB men, started a Sunday morning Prayer Time at Antioch, and began a charge Lenten Bible Study.

THEN the "interruption" called a COVID-19 Pandemic began! Like most other churches, we immediately discontinued "in-person" worship services and were unsure what we would do to stay connected with the Antioch and New El Bethel congregations. By the first of April, with the huge help of my much-more-technologically-savvy Associate Pastor, we began Zoom messages and had a fairly good number of folks tuning in. We continued the Zoom messages and also started Facebook Live messages until we began "in-person" services at both churches on June 14. We tried a couple

Parking Lot Services at Antioch before June 14, which were well-received and well-attended.

Needless to say, folks at both Antioch and New El Bethel were happy when the “in-person” services resumed. Of course, some of our members have been reluctant to return to church, yet, but a number of them are watching the Facebook Live services that have continued. Also, like many churches that are having online services during the pandemic, we’re reaching MANY people with the Good News about Jesus – more than we would ordinarily reach at the two Sunday morning worship services. With that in mind, we’re planning to keep on having Facebook Live services even when the pandemic is over. One thing I’ve tried to do from time to time is to make telephone calls to church members to check up on them or to see how they’re doing following surgical procedures; hopefully, they’ll feel a little more “connected” when their pastor calls.

Attendance at both churches is down, but Darrell and I certainly understand why most of our older members and others with underlying health issues are not attending church. They’ll be back, I’m sure! Darrell and I are very thankful that the financial situation at Antioch and New El Bethel is stable. The members of both churches continue to give (or send) their tithes and offerings so ministry can move forward. It really WILL be SO good – and FEEL so good – when we can ALL return safely to worship God together! We believe that all this “shall pass,” and we’ll be able to adjust to the “new normal,” whatever that may look like in the future

With a few months remaining in 2020, we hope to begin having Holy Communion again soon (which we and many others have been missing), insuring everyone’s safety when they receive the elements of bread and “wine”! The Men’s and Women’s Fellowship groups at New El Bethel will be working on the resumption of their meetings and times together over the next month or so. I’m considering doing a Zoom Advent Bible Study, too. I’m sure that Antioch and New El Bethel will be involved in some outreach ministries during the Thanksgiving, Advent, and Christmas seasons, which will be good for both congregations. We certainly don’t want ministry and mission opportunities to stop during these very different, difficult, and challenging times. I know that God’s grace and love will sustain us as together we seek His will and His way for Antioch and New El Bethel United Methodist Churches! Darrell and I LOVE serving the awesome people of these two churches!

Respectfully submitted,



Dickie Knight, Senior Pastor
October 8, 2020

Associate Pastor's Report
Antioch/New El Bethel Charge
October 1, 2020

As I think back to last year's Charge Conference it seems the world has turned upside down. The world pandemic has caused us to look beyond the traditional ways our churches were striving to meet our mission of "making disciples for Jesus Christ" to areas we had never considered before.

I am sure the Senior Pastor will address many of the activities that have taken place since last year's charge conference, but I want to highlight some that were special to me. At Antioch UMC, we continued to have activities for the youth of our church which was very rewarding. Last December we had our second Candlelight Remembrance Service at the cemetery which was well attended by the community. At New El Bethel UMC our men and women's groups continued to meet and plan service projects for the community. We also had a wonderful Christmas Fellowship Lunch that was attended by all. Experience over the past few years has shown us that joint events for the churches are not always well attended by the other congregation depending on where it is held, so we took special occasions such as Christmas Eve to provide simultaneous services at both sites. We have committed ourselves to meeting the needs of each congregation to help them grow individually to meet the needs of their individual communities.

In March, we were all caught off guard when services were suspended due to Covid-19. Everyone was unsure what the future would hold, and we were unsure how to meet the needs of our members. Within a few weeks, we learned how to conduct Zoom meetings and Rev. Knight hosted our first Zoom worship service. We learned together how to modify the order of worship to accommodate the new format, even when we did not fully understand the technology. We then saw the need to expand the format for those who were not able use Zoom. Since we already had Facebook pages for both churches, we decided that Dickie (who was not on Facebook) would have a Zoom service at 9:30 AM on Sundays and I would have a Facebook Live service at 10:30 AM. We saw a boost in participation with this format and continued it for several months. We also monitored what other churches were doing in the area. In May, we wanted to do something special for Mother's Day, so we planned our first "Parking Lot Service" at Antioch. We also broadcast it through Facebook Live. Everyone who attended seemed to appreciate

getting back together, even if it was from a distance, and seeing their brothers and sisters in Christ. We invited the New El Bethel members to join us at Antioch for this service and recognized the mothers in attendance with flowers. This service was such a success, we held another for Pentecost Sunday which saw another crowd in attendance. Throughout the quarantine Dickie and I continued to provide bible study and Sunday worship through Zoom and Facebook Live. The views of the services on Facebook Live showed we were reaching several hundred each week through the “views” which let others know our little churches were alive and well.

During June, churches could re-open using safety guidelines and we decided that June 14th would be our first services back in the churches. Both congregations were excited, and groups got together to clean and prepare the sanctuaries. On June 14th we held our first services back in the churches, but because we knew not everyone was comfortable returned, we broadcast the services through Facebook Live. My wife attended as the “cameraman” on my Sundays and I went on Dickie’s Sundays to operate the video for him. This format allowed us to provide worship experiences for those who were able to attend as well as those who were still homebound. This has opened our churches to the larger community and has led to others joining us. We have also seen tremendous financial support throughout the quarantine and pandemic. Both churches have remained financially sound and we appreciate the support everyone has given Dickie and I throughout these unprecedented times.

The lesson we have all learned throughout this challenging time is that the church is so much more than the building, it is the people. Our members have continued to provide financial support of ministries such as the Gideons and Epworth as well as commitment to pay 100% of our apportionments. We have also collected food donations for the local food bank as well as providing emotional support to our older members while they are isolated at home. God has been good and continues to bless me, Dickie, and these two special congregations and even in difficult times, their lights continue to shine for Jesus in a dark world.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Darrell W. Ricketts". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial 'D'.

Rev. Darrell W. Ricketts

Associate Pastor, Antioch/New El Bethel UMC's

Minutes of the Charge Conference

The Charge Conference for the ANTIOCH - NEW EL BETHEL CHARGE (276700) of the Marion District of the South Carolina Annual Conference was held. The Charge Conference for the ANTIOCH - NEW EL BETHEL CHARGE (276700) of the Marion District of the South Carolina Annual Conference was held October 3, 2021 at New El Bethel United Methodist Church chaired by Rev. Tim Rogers. A devotional service was conducted by Rev. Tim Rogers.

In light of the pandemic, the Cabinet has revised the Charge Conference Minutes questions for 2021, to help churches reflect on the changing context for ministry. These questions are from the newly revised Forward Focus materials and are intended to help a church reflect on how the pandemic has impacted ministry. The pastor and key church leaders should discuss the questions together, and then enter the answers in the text box. If you need additional space, please attach a supplement.

I. Pandemic Ministry

We are constantly changing and growing. We are not the same today as we were yesterday. This section should give you an idea about how your church has weathered the pandemic. It should give your church an idea about what you may need to do in order to move forward. Take time to pray and listen.

A. Has your church's vision shifted since COVID-19?

Antioch/Conway (276700): The vision of Antioch United Methodist Church has not "shifted" dramatically since COVID-19. Except for the three- or four-month "interruption" of in-person worship services in 2020, Antioch has continued to have Sunday services. The congregation certainly has the vision to be a "light" in the community and to grow numerically and spiritually, hoping to reach others with the love of Jesus in the years to come.

New El Bethel (277101): The vision of New El Bethel United Methodist Church has not changed drastically since COVID-19. The congregation continues to have the vision of being a "beacon" for Jesus Christ at a very busy intersection in Conway. New El Bethel, "the most loving place in town," desires to welcome those who don't know Christ, newcomers, and the unchurched and wants them to experience the fellowship of the church.

B. What new tools did you have to learn about and use?

Antioch/Conway (276700): The only "new tools" used at Antioch United Methodist Church during the pandemic was "Zoom" for services and a prayer time when in-person services were not held and the use of Facebook Live for some Parking Lot Services.

New El Bethel (277101): When in-person worship services were temporarily discontinued at New El Bethel United Methodist Church, Zoom and Facebook Live messages were delivered by Rev. Knight and Rev. Ricketts. Some Parking Lot Services were held at New El Bethel's "sister" church, Antioch UMC, and some New El Bethel members attended those services. When in-person services resumed at New El Bethel, the church began and has continued to "stream" the services via Facebook live so that members who have not yet returned to church, the sick and shut-in, and MANY others may experience worship and hear the Good News about Jesus every Sunday.

C. Describe your church's strengths and your church's growing edges revealed during the pandemic.

Antioch/Conway (276700): Antioch's major strength during the pandemic is being a consistent and faithful "light" for others in the community. People have certainly observed that

worship services have continued on Sunday mornings with very few interruptions. If there's a "growing edge," it would have to be the need to intentionally reach out to others who are not Christians and/or who are unchurched and to encourage them to consider becoming a part of the fellowship and membership of Antioch UMC.

New El Bethel (277101): Again, one of New El Bethel United Methodist Church's strengths is its strategic location at a very busy intersection in Conway, so the church's visibility/location is a strength. Also, there is a "faithful" group of individuals who make sure that newcomers, including non-Christians and the unchurched, are welcomed when they enter the church's doors. If there's a "growing edge," it would probably be the need to provide more opportunities for members and others to grow in their faith, i.e. Bible studies and Sunday School.

- D. Describe the impact of the pandemic on your existing ministries and on any new ministries you started.

Antioch/Conway (276700): The main impact of the pandemic on existing ministries at Antioch United Methodist Church has been to limit the number of fellowship times the congregation has been able to have. Otherwise, outreach ministries, i.e. monthly collections of food items for CAP (Churches Assisting People) and collecting back-to-school supplies and hygiene items for Fostering Hope (a community store and outreach ministry in Conway), have continued.

New El Bethel (277101): New El Bethel United Methodist Church had not started any new ministries before the pandemic, and "existing ministries" that have been temporarily discontinued will resume once the pandemic has ended, ministries such as the monthly fellowship meals after church and the monthly Men's Fellowship Breakfasts. Outreach ministries, i.e. monthly collections of food items for CAP (Churches Assisting People) and collecting back-to-school supplies and hygiene items for Fostering Hope (a community outreach store and ministry), are continuing.

- E. What ministries have you decided to keep and what ministries have you decided to let go of as a result of the pandemic?

Antioch/Conway (276700): Antioch United Methodist Church has not decided to "let go" of any ministries as a result of the pandemic, but the hope is to develop some new ministries once the pandemic has ended. Any ministries that have been "suspended" because of the pandemic will resume.

New El Bethel (277101): New El Bethel United Methodist Church is not planning to "let go" of any ministries. Those listed in Question D above, which have been temporarily "put on hold," will resume once the pandemic has ended.

- F. In what ways are you uniquely equipped to meet the needs of the community?

Antioch/Conway (276700): Antioch United Methodist Church is "uniquely equipped" to meet the needs of the community because of its visible location on a relatively busy "country" road and because those who attend are open and receptive to grow in the future.

New El Bethel (277101): Again, New El Bethel United Methodist Church is strategically located at a busy intersection in Conway, which makes the church "uniquely equipped" to meet the needs of the community. Also, the congregation at New El Bethel is mission-minded.

so the members have the desire to reach out to others in the community with the love of Jesus.

II. Personnel

1. Who are recommended by the Pastor/Parish Relations Committee: (*vote, *v 2/3 = two thirds vote)
 - A. as candidates for ordained ministry (§§ 258.2(g)9, 310.1(e)) (*v 2/3)?
 - B. for continuation as candidates for ordained ministry (§§ 258.2(g)9, 310.1(e)) (*v)?
2. List the names of the persons the church has given to the United Methodist Ministry?
3. Who are recommended as Local Church Lay Servants (§ 266) (*v)?
 - A. New:
 - B. Renewed: Donna Calhoun Beata Lisandrelli Paul Lisandrelli Randall Mishoe Willa Mae Mishoe
4. Who are recommended as Certified Lay Servants (§ 266) (*v)?
 - A. New:
 - B. Recertified:
5. Who are recommended as Certified Lay Speakers (§ 267) (*v)?
 - A. New:
 - B. Recertified:
6. Who are recommended as Certified Lay Ministers (§ 268) (*v)?
 - A. New:
 - B. Recertified:

III. Stewardship

One way the local church participates in the world wide mission of the church is through apportionments (§ 247.14).

Antioch/Conway (276700)

A. What percent of apportionments were paid in 2020? 100%

What do you expect to pay in 2021? 100%

B. If you are not paying 100% of your apportionments, please explain why, and what are your plans to move toward 100% payment?

C. Are you up to date on Direct Billing? Yes

If not, what is your current balance and plan to address it?

Do you plan to enroll in the Conference Forgiveness Plan? No

D. Has a 2020 Audit been completed and report submitted to the District Office? Yes

New El Bethel (277101)

A. What percent of apportionments were paid in 2020? 100%

What do you expect to pay in 2021? 100%

B. If you are not paying 100% of your apportionments, please explain why, and what are your plans to move toward 100% payment?

C. Are you up to date on Direct Billing? Yes

If not, what is your current balance and plan to address it?

Do you plan to enroll in the Conference Forgiveness Plan? No

D. Has a 2020 Audit been completed and report submitted to the District Office? Yes

IV. Submit the following:

- A. Minutes Form (1 Report for each charge)
Recommend Candidates for Ordained Ministry
Recommend Lay Servants
- B. Lay Servant Report(s)
- C. Report of the Church Council (Oral composite report plus any other written reports such as UMW, UMM, UMYF)
- D. Report of the Pastor (State of the Church. ¶ 340 BOD 2016 & Pastoral Ministry)
- E. Continuing Education Report
- F. Reports of other clergy and applicable Continuing Education Reports (all categories)
- G. Annual Report of Trustees
- H. *Report of the Committee on Nominations and Leadership Development - print copies for members of Charge Conference
-Lay Member to 2022 Annual Conference - do not print; submit names online
-Epworth Children's Home Local Church Representative
- I. Pastor-Parish Relations Roster for Charge 2022
- J. Charge Conference Official Roll and Attendance Record for 2022 - print copies for District Superintendent and Secretary for keeping roll at Council meetings
- K. *Recommended Ministerial Support & Accountable Reimbursement Policy

- L. Parsonage Report
- M. Report of the Finance Committee
 - 2022 Local Church Budget
 - Treasurer's Report
- N. Conference or District Nominations form - do not print; submit names online
- O. 2021-22 High School Junior and Senior List and current college students (¶ 232 BOD 2016) - do not print, submit names online
- P. Report of Local Church(es) Safe Sanctuary Policy (Attach copies)
- Q. Local Church Policy on Sexual Misconduct (Attach copy, see sample here: [Sample-Local-Church-Policy-Statement-on-Misconduct-of-a-Sexual-Nature-2016.pdf](#) (umcsc.org))

*Vote required at charge conference

Presiding Elder or District Superintendent

Secretary

CHURCH COUNCIL COMPOSITE REPORT
NEW EL BETHEL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
OCTOBER 31, 2020 THROUGH OCTOBER 3, 2021

On-going Ministries assisting various people/agencies/members, which include:

- ✓ Benevolence Offering to assist individuals coming to the church needing assistance,
- ✓ CAP Food Drive providing food for needy individuals within our community,
- ✓ Birthday Celebration/Collection supports our Children's Ministry and celebrates members,
Celebration of Life meal for families of ^{a member} ~~three members~~ who passed away this year,
- Facebook Live Broadcasts allows members and visitors to watch worship service ~~while~~ ^{when unable} ~~quarantining~~, and ^{to attend}
- Collection of Aluminum Cans and Tabs - cans help Academy of Hope and tabs help Shriners with expenses of transportation ^{of} ~~sick/injured~~ children ^{to Hospital(s) for treatment}

Special Ministries adopted this year, such as:

- ✓ Collected Comfort Items for Compass Post-Acute Rehab patients,
Adopted two families at Christmas provided various gift cards to local businesses,
- ✓ Day of Prayer and Appreciation for Law Enforcement honoring local law enforcement agencies and individuals, and
- ✓ Participated in both collection days for Epworth Children's Home

Joined our sister church in Special Ministries/Services this year, such as:

- ✓ Operation Christmas Child/Shoebox Project, the two churches prepared and shipped 24 [?] boxes,
- ✓ Collection of Back-to-School Supplies and Hygiene Products for Fostering Hope, and
- ✓ Participated in ⁴ 7-week Easter Bible Study, Holy Week Services, and Christmas Eve Services.

New El Bethel celebrated Valentine's Day, Mother's Day, Father's Day and ~~50th wedding anniversary~~ of Pastor and Ms. Knight with delicious meals, fellowship, and fun. Celebrated Easter with a Flowering of the Cross Ceremony, Christmas with Advent Services with readings by church members, and All Saints Sunday with the celebration of fourteen family members no longer with us.

New El Bethel is working on an updated Church Roster and continuing to build Church Library. For a few months, the Monthly Fellowship Meals and Group Meetings were held but was suspended due to increase in COVID cases, waiting for decrease to start Small Groups again.

* Started again w/ 7 MM's in _____ and continuing

Report of Pastor 2021

The report of the pastor in charge shall include the names of all persons involved in the changes in membership and other items outlined in the 2016 Book of Discipline (¶¶ 234, 340). This report should cover as fully as possible the work of the pastor. Care should be taken not to duplicate the reports of the Church Council, committees, organizations, and officers of the charge.

Copies of this report should be filed with the recording secretary, pastor, district superintendent, and chairperson of witness or evangelism ministries.

Church <u>New El Bethel 277101</u>	Charge <u>ANTIOCH - NEW EL BETHEL CHARGE 276700</u>
District <u>Marion District</u>	Conference <u>South Carolina Conference</u>
For the period beginning <u>10/25/2020</u> and ending <u>10/03/2021</u> .	

1. List those who have been received into baptized membership since last report (Record names and dates).

a. Infants baptized since last report

Name	Date
None	

b. All others: children, youth, and adults baptized since last report.

Name	Date
None	

2. List those who have been received into professing membership since the last report (Record names and dates).

a. On profession of faith or restored

Name	Date
None	

b. From other United Methodist churches.

Name	Date
None	

c. From other non-United Methodist churches.

Name	Date
None	

3. List those who have been removed from the professing membership since last report (Record names and dates).

a. By action of the Charge Conference, or trial court, or withdrawal

Name	Date
None	

b. By transfer to other United Methodist churches.

Name	Date
None	

c. By transfer to other non-United Methodist churches.

Name	Date
None	

d. By death.

Name	Date
Bessie Emma Roberts Mishoe	11/17/2020
Allene H. Thomas	05/28/2021
Robert Ellery "Bob" Clark	06/08/2021

4. Have the membership rolls been audited? No

a. If not, why not?

Plans were being made to audit the membership roll, but the plans have been held up because of the pandemic.

b. Who has moved from your community since the last Charge Conference?

c. What has been done to relate them to another church?

5. The pastor shall give a report on the State of the Church (Please do not duplicate report of the Church Council or other committees. Only the highlights, from the pastor's perspective, the major issues or events related to the health of the church). (Attach as a supplement.)

6. The Pastor shall give an account of pastoral ministry as it relates to (§ 340): Elders, provisional elders, and local pastors have a fourfold ministry of Word, Sacrament, Order and Service. Please describe how you have fulfilled your calling this year in the following ways: (Attach as a supplement.)

a. Preach and teach the Word.

b. Provide pastoral care and counsel.

c. Administer the sacraments.

d. Order the life of the church for service in mission and ministry.

e. Include as a part of the report a statement outlining the pastor's program of continuing education and spiritual growth for the past year and plans for the year to come (§ 351).

Signed

Richard H. Knight

Printed Name

Richard H. Knight

Date

10-3-2021

PASTOR'S REPORT
Antioch/New El Bethel Charge
2021

The last year and a half have been “different” for the Antioch/New El Bethel Charge! The COVID-19 “pandemic” has impacted both Antioch and New El Bethel United Methodist Churches, and the impact has not been all that negative. While the “pandemic” has certainly affected attendance at both churches, and while we have had to curtail some fellowship opportunities from time to time, the members of the congregations are continuing to stay as “connected” as possible. (That’s one advantage of being “small” and people knowing one another.) The faithfulness of both congregations has been especially evident in the level of their financial commitment to Christ and the Church. The receipts of tithes and offerings at both churches, especially this year, have been above average. If members are not attending the services because of the “pandemic,” they send in their contributions. I am grateful for both congregations and their faithfulness in giving!

Since the Charge Conference last year and even during the “pandemic,” both Antioch and New El Bethel managed to “hold” some events (with caution) along the way, including: several Men’s Fellowship Breakfasts at NEB; a Service of Remembrance at the Antioch Cemetery; Christmas Lunch at NEB; Christmas Eve Communion at both churches; a seven-week Facebook Lenten Bible Study; Maundy Thursday Communion Services at both churches; an Easter Sunrise Service and Breakfast at Antioch; a few Antioch “Brotherhood” Suppers; a Mother’s Day Breakfast at NEB; one Fellowship Supper and a few Youth Gatherings at Antioch; and A Day of Prayer and Appreciation for Law Enforcement at both churches.

One thing that impresses me about the Antioch and New El Bethel congregations is how open and receptive they are to outreach opportunities. They continue to bring food items for Churches Assisting People (CAP) every month, and the two churches came together again this year to collect back-to-school supplies and hygiene items for Fostering Hope, an outreach ministry in Conway. I’m sure that both congregations will reach out again at Christmas to a few families so they’ll have a brighter holiday season. In 2020, Antioch and New El Bethel participated in Samaritan’s Purse’s “shoebox” ministry, and I’m thinking they will want to participate again this year.

It's hard to believe that Darrell Ricketts and I are in our fifth year as "partners in ministry" at the Antioch/New El Bethel Charge. God certainly "arranged" this partnership (through our District Superintendent) from the very start. I think Darrell would concur with me that God has blessed us (and our spouses) in many ways as we've served both Antioch and New El Bethel UMC's. The members of the two churches are so very loving and supportive of our ministry, and they demonstrate their gratitude to us and for us through their words and actions – and we thank God for them! We are excited about our ongoing ministry together at the Antioch/New El Bethel Charge!

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Dickie Knight". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Dickie Knight, Senior Pastor

October 3, 2021

Associate Pastor's Report
Antioch/New El Bethel Charge
October 3, 2021

As I reflect on the past year of ministry at Antioch and New El Bethel United Methodist Churches, I can't help but be filled with awe at God's power and providence in the face of what would seem like impossible circumstances. When we had our Charge Conference last year, we had been dealing with the pandemic for over six months, which seemed like a lifetime. We struggled to maintain church activities during a time when we couldn't gather, and any group activities were out of the question. Just when it seemed that things might return to some normalcy this year, we have been faced once again with a surge of the virus in our communities and several families have been touched by it, including our Senior Pastor. In spite of the difficulties, God has continued to guide the ministry of these two churches and allowed us to find new and positive ways to spread the Gospel and grow as a faith community.

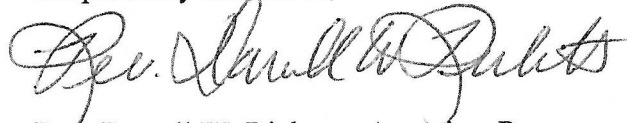
We have continued to offer our worship services to members who are homebound through Facebook Live each Sunday. While we only livestream the service at New El Bethel, it is shared on the Antioch Facebook page and viewed by several hundred people weekly. We have continued "in-person" worship since we resumed during the summer of 2020, but attendance has continued to lag behind where it was prior to COVID. We have participated in several on-going mission projects, including collecting food for CAP (Churches Assisting People) in the Conway area every 2nd Sunday at both churches. We also have collected personal hygiene products and school supplies for the Fostering Hope Ministry in Conway which provides support to families offering foster care to children in need. We collected over 40 shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child through Samaritan's Purse as a joint project for both congregations. We also supported Epworth Children's Home through both the Mother's Day and Workday offerings. During monthly communion services at New El Bethel, we collect an additional "helping hands" offering that is used to help individuals who frequently stop by our church on Sundays needing assistance. We also try to be sensitive to the special needs that may exist for our members and have taken up love offerings for individual members experiencing hardship during the pandemic.

Worship continues to be a vital part of our life together at both churches. We celebrated All Saints Sunday, not only recognizing the loss of members, but others who may have passed who held a special place in our hearts. It was especially meaningful to those who may have moved to the area and left family in other areas of the country. On December 13, 2020, we held our Luminary Remembrance Service at Antioch UMC Cemetery. It was outside and we practiced social distancing, but attendance was great. This annual celebration has turned into a meaningful event for not only our congregants, but the entire community. We held Christmas Eve Communion Services at both churches this year. Since there are two of us, Rev. Knight and I have begun alternating between the churches and offering Christmas Eve and Maundy Thursday Communion at both sites to allow greater participation. We held the Easter Sunrise Service at Antioch for both churches again this year, and breakfast was provided for all by the Antioch Men's Fellowship.

We have suffered some tremendous losses this year that have impacted us as congregations but also as individuals. Two members passed away at Antioch and three members at New El Bethel. One of the losses was due to the virus, which was devastating and unexpected. We also lost our oldest member at New El Bethel. While we know they have received their reward for lives well lived, our hearts still miss them. But in the shadow of this grief, we were also reminded of the newness of life as we celebrated the baptism of our youngest member at Antioch. We also celebrated the graduation of two of our youth and prayed with them as they look toward the future and what God has in store for them.

In closing, I must once again thank Rev. Knight for his tremendous leadership during this time and for his friendship, mentorship, and love. During my time as Associate Pastor at Antioch and New El Bethel United Methodist Churches, I have learned that “bigger” is not always better or even desirable when it comes to churches and that God truly honors His promise of “wherever two or three are gathered in my name, there I am in the midst of them”. We have felt His presence and guidance regardless of our numbers and have seen His blessings as we have continued to have resources necessary for ministry. We look forward to the challenges that lie ahead with the assurance that “all things are possible through Him who loves us.”

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rev. Darrell W. Ricketts". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Rev. Darrell W. Ricketts, Associate Pastor
Antioch United Methodist Church
New El Bethel United Methodist Church

Antioch/Conway (276700)	2021	20	69	0	42	0	0
	2020	18	71	0	14	0	0
New El Bethel (277101)	2021	25	122	0	34	0	0
	2020	37	122	6	12	0	0

E. Tools for Planning

What is your church's specific plan to reach new people for Jesus Christ? What tools are you using to foster growth (i.e. Forward Focus, Natural Church Development, SHIFT, Ken Callahan's "Twelve Keys to an Effective Church", etc.)?

Antioch/Conway (276700): At the present time, there are no specific plans to reach new people for Jesus Christ. Hopefully, through upcoming Bible Studies, the members will be challenged to share their faith and reach new people for Jesus Christ.

New El Bethel (277101): New El Bethel does not have specific plans to reach new people for Jesus Christ, but hopefully, through the personal witness of church members, others will want to come to church and experience in a personal way the love of Jesus.

II. Nurture

A. Does your church have a visitation program? Please describe.

Antioch/Conway (276700): Antioch does not have a visitation program.

New El Bethel (277101): New El Bethel does not have a visitation program.

B. Does your church have a congregational care program (i.e. Stephen's Ministry, divorce care, counseling center, grief group, etc.)? Please describe.

Antioch/Conway (276700): Antioch does not have a congregational care program, but being a small-membership church, the members are very good at caring for one another, especially during times of crisis (i.e. death). If they know of other needs in the community, they welcome the opportunity to care for those in need.

New El Bethel (277101): New El Bethel does not have a congregational care program, but as a small-membership church, the members are good at taking care of one another, especially during times of grief and other crises. If the congregation discovers other needs of people beyond the walls of the church, they will respond in reaching out to those persons.

III. Outreach and Witness

A. How is your church reaching out in service to the community and the world?

Antioch/Conway (276700): In addition to supporting our connectional denomination through apportionments, the members of Antioch support two local ministries: CAP (Churches Assisting People) and Fostering Hope (a ministry to "fostering" families).

New El Bethel (277101): New El Bethel is faithful in supporting our connectional denomination through apportionment giving, and NEB is very supportive of two local ministries: CAP (Churches Assisting People) and Fostering Hope (a ministry to "fostering"

families).

The number of persons from your church serving in mission/community ministries reported in your church's last year-end Statistical Tables.

Antioch/Conway (276700): 10

New El Bethel (277101): 20

B. How has your church engaged in ministry with children, youth, and young adults beyond your local church this year (i.e. Scouts, Child Care, Basketball League, school partnerships, dialogues, etc.)? How did these experiences impact the mission and ministry of your church?

Antioch/Conway (276700): Antioch has not engaged in ministry with children, youth, and young adults beyond the local church this year.

New El Bethel (277101): New El Bethel has not engaged in ministry with children, youth, and young adults beyond the local church this year.

C. Has your church engaged in ministry with other United Methodist Churches, with ecumenical partners, and in cross racial/cultural experiences (i.e. pulpit or choir exchanges, joint projects, dialogues, etc.)? How did these experiences impact the mission and ministry of your church?

Antioch/Conway (276700): Antioch has not engaged in ministry with other United Methodist Churches, with ecumenical partners, and in cross racial/cultural experiences this year.

New El Bethel (277101): New El Bethel has not engaged in ministry with other United Methodist Churches, with ecumenical partners, and in cross racial/cultural experiences this year.

IV. Submit the following:

- A. Report of the Church Council (Oral composite report plus any other written reports such as UMW, UMM, UMYF)
- B. Report of the Pastor (State of the Church. ¶ 340 BOD 2016, Continuing Education Report)
- C. Reports of other clergy and applicable Continuing Education Reports (all categories)
- D. Report of Trustees
- E. *Report of the Committee on Nominations and Leadership Development - print copies for members of Charge Conference
 - PPRC Roster
 - Lay Member to 2023 Annual Conference - do not print; submit names online
 - Official Roll and Attendance Record for 2023 - print copies for District Superintendent and Secretary for keeping roll at Council meetings
- F. *Recommended Ministerial Support
- G. Accountable Reimbursement Policy
- H. 2023 Budget
 - I. Treasurer's Report
 - J. Report of the Committee on Finance
- K. Parsonage Report
- L. Report of Local Church(es) Safe Sanctuary Policy (Attach copies)
- M. Epworth Children's Home Local Church Representative - do not print; submit name on Nominations and Leadership Report
- N. Conference or District Nominations form - do not print; submit names online

O. 2022-23 High School Junior and Senior List and current college students (¶ 232 BOD 2016) - do not print, submit names online

P. Local Church Policy on Sexual Misconduct (Attach copy, see sample here: [Sample-Local-Church-Policy-Statement-on-Misconduct-of-a-Sexual-Nature-2016.pdf](#) (umcsc.org))

*Vote required at charge conference

V. Personnel

1. Who are recommended by the Pastor/Parish Relations Committee: (*vote, *v 2/3 = two thirds vote)

A. as candidates for ordained ministry (¶¶ 258.2(g)9, 310.1(e)) (*v 2/3)?

B. for continuation as candidates for ordained ministry (¶¶ 258.2(g)9, 310.1(e)) (*v)?

2. List the names of the persons the church has given to the United Methodist Ministry?

3. Who are recommended as Local Church Lay Servants (¶ 266) (*v)?

A. New:

B. Renewed: Donna

Calhoun Beata Lisandrelli Paul Lisandrelli Randall Mishoe Willa Mae Mishoe

4. Who are recommended as Certified Lay Servants (¶ 266) (*v)?

A. New:

B. Recertified:

5. Who are recommended as Certified Lay Speakers (¶ 267) (*v)?

A. New:

B. Recertified:

6. Who are recommended as Certified Lay Ministers (¶ 268) (*v)?

A. New:

B. Recertified:

VI. Stewardship

One way the local church participates in the world wide mission of the church is through apportionments (¶ 247.14).

~~Antioch/Conway~~ (276700)

A. What percent of apportionments were paid in 2021? 100%

What do you expect to pay in 2022? 100%

B. If you are not paying 100% of your apportionments, please explain why, and what are your plans to move toward 100% payment?

C. Are you up to date on Direct Billing? Yes

If not, what is your current balance and plan to address it?

Do you plan to enroll in the Conference Forgiveness Plan? No

D. Has a 2021 Audit been completed and report submitted to the District Office? Yes

New El Bethel (277101)

A. What percent of apportionments were paid in 2021? 100%

What do you expect to pay in 2022? 100%

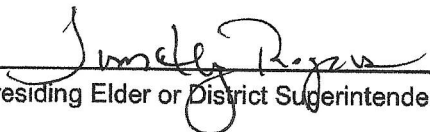
B. If you are not paying 100% of your apportionments, please explain why, and what are your plans to move toward 100% payment?

C. Are you up to date on Direct Billing? Yes

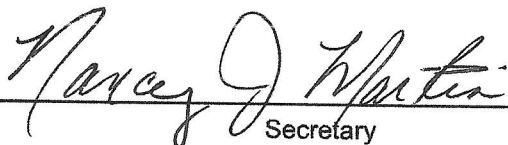
If not, what is your current balance and plan to address it?

Do you plan to enroll in the Conference Forgiveness Plan? No

D. Has a 2021 Audit been completed and report submitted to the District Office? Yes



Presiding Elder or District Superintendent



Secretary

CHURCH COUNCIL COMPOSITE REPORT
NEW EL BETHEL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
OCTOBER 3, 2021 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 28, 2022

On-going Ministries assisting various people/agencies/members, which include:

- Benevolence Offering to assist individuals coming to the church needing assistance,
- CAP Food Drive providing food for needy individuals within our community,
- Birthday Celebration/Collection supports our Children's Ministry and celebrates members,
- Celebration of Life meal for family of a member who passed away this year,
- Collected a love offering for a member family in need,
- Facebook Live Broadcasts allows members and visitors to watch worship service virtually, and
- Collection of Aluminum Cans and Tabs - cans help Academy of Hope and tabs help Shriners with expenses of transportation sick/injured children.

Special Ministries adopted this year, such as:

- Adopted two families at Christmas provided various gift cards to local businesses,
- Participated in both collection days for Epworth Children's Home

Joined our sister church in Special Ministries/Services this year, such as:

- Operation Christmas Child/Shoebox Project,
- Collection of Back-to-School Supplies and Hygiene Products for Fostering Hope, and
- Participated in 4-week Easter Bible Study, Holy Week Services, Advent Season Readings, and Christmas Eve Services.

New El Bethel celebrated Valentine's Day, Mother's Day, Father's Day with delicious meals, fellowship, and fun. Celebrated Easter with a Flowering of the Cross Ceremony, Christmas with Advent Services with readings by church members, and All Saints Sunday with the celebration of family members no longer with us. Have gone through the process of starting our Children's Ministry which is scheduled to start October 9th.

Report of Pastor 2022

The report of the pastor in charge shall include the names of all persons involved in the changes in membership and other items outlined in the 2016 Book of Discipline (§§ 234, 340). This report should cover as fully as possible the work of the pastor. Care should be taken not to duplicate the reports of the Church Council, committees, organizations, and officers of the charge.

Copies of this report should be filed with the recording secretary, pastor, district superintendent, and chairperson of witness or evangelism ministries.

Church <u>New El Bethel 277101</u>	Charge <u>ANTIOCH - NEW EL BETHEL CHARGE 276700</u>
District <u>Marion District</u>	Conference <u>South Carolina Conference</u>
For the period beginning 10/03/2021 and ending 09/28/2022.	

1. List those who have been received into baptized membership since last report (Record names and dates).

a. Infants baptized since last report

Name	Date
None	

b. All others: children, youth, and adults baptized since last report.

Name	Date
None	

2. List those who have been received into professing membership since the last report (Record names and dates).

a. On profession of faith or restored

Name	Date
None	

b. From other United Methodist churches.

Name	Date
Bill Schreiber	11/21/2021
Helen Schreiber	11/21/2021

c. From other non-United Methodist churches.

Name	Date
None	

3. List those who have been removed from the professing membership since last report (Record names and dates).

a. By action of the Charge Conference, or trial court, or withdrawal

Name	Date
None	

b. By transfer to other United Methodist churches.

Name	Date
None	

c. By transfer to other non-United Methodist churches.

Name	Date
Cheryl Andrews	08/28/2022

d. By death.

Name	Date
Roy Sessions	02/11/2022

4. Have the membership rolls been audited? No

a. If not, why not?

We have not had the opportunity to start a membership audit, especially with other delays caused by the COVID pandemic.

b. Who has moved from your community since the last Charge Conference?

c. What has been done to relate them to another church?

5. The pastor shall give a report on the State of the Church (Please do not duplicate report of the Church Council or other committees. Only the highlights, from the pastor's perspective, the major issues or events related to the health of the church). (Attach as a supplement.)

6. The Pastor shall give an account of pastoral ministry as it relates to (§ 340): Elders, provisional elders, and local pastors have a fourfold ministry of Word, Sacrament, Order and Service. Please describe how you have fulfilled your calling this year in the following ways: (Attach as a supplement.)

a. Preach and teach the Word.

b. Provide pastoral care and counsel.

c. Administer the sacraments.

d. Order the life of the church for service in mission and ministry.

e. Include as a part of the report a statement outlining the pastor's program of continuing education and spiritual growth for the past year and plans for the year to come (§ 351).

Signed

Richard H. Knight

Printed Name

Richard H. Knight

Date

9-28-2022

PASTOR'S REPORT
Antioch/New El Bethel Charge
2022

I want to begin my 2022 Charge Conference Pastor's Report by saying once again what a joy and blessing it is to serve the Antioch/New El Bethel Charge alongside my friend and partner in ministry, Darrell Ricketts. We are in our sixth year together and continue to be excited about serving Antioch and New El Bethel United Methodist Churches. Both congregations show their love and appreciation to us in different ways, and we love and appreciate them so much as well! Darrell and I are so grateful for our shared ministry with them!

Of course, the last few years have presented some challenges for all churches because of the COVID pandemic, and that has proven true for Antioch and New El Bethel. I feel, though, that we have made some progress in getting back to a semblance of normalcy at the two churches, especially over the past year since our last Charge Conference.

We have been holding in-person worship services at Antioch and New El Bethel since June, 2020, and the service every Sunday at New El Bethel is on Facebook Live, which started during the pandemic. This ministry of having the services on Facebook Live has certainly benefited members of the churches who have been hesitant about returning and worshipping in-person, and there are a significant number of "views" for every service. The plan is to continue this ministry indefinitely! Attendance at the in-person worship services has not gotten back to pre-pandemic numbers, but members and friends of both churches have been very faithful in their stewardship. Antioch and New El Bethel are doing very well financially, perhaps better than ever!

We DID receive two new members into the fellowship of New El Bethel since last year's Charge Conference, which was a special blessing! On a different and sadder note, Antioch experienced the loss of five members, which is a large number for a small-membership church. With the growth in the Conway area, I hope that both churches will develop plans to reach out into the community and invite others, especially the unchurched, to come and find the warmth of Christian fellowship that they can offer.

Again, we are gradually getting back to some normalcy at Antioch and New El Bethel. After the Charge Conference on October 3, 2021, monthly fellowship meals resumed at New El Bethel. Although participation hasn't been like it was before COVID, those who DO come to the meals really enjoy the food and fellowship – and they even seem to like occasional activities planned by the “Master Gamer,” as I've been called by my “Junior” Pastor, ☺! The monthly New El Bethel Men's Fellowship Breakfast also started back up and is attended by six or seven men every second Saturday morning.

At Antioch, several youth attend worship services there most Sunday mornings. Before the pandemic, Darrell and I met with the youth and their mothers regularly for food and fellowship together. We stopped those gatherings when COVID came, but thankfully, we've started them again. We had a Pool and Pizza Party recently for the youth, and we'll be making plans for the rest of the year with them. Like the folks at New El Bethel, the members of Antioch like to get together for good food and fellowship, too. We FINALLY were able to have a sub sandwich supper and planning meeting in August (for the rest of the year).

Antioch and New El Bethel are both looking forward to having Homecoming this Fall, which is an event they've missed over the past couple of years. Also, they “joined forces” a month or so ago in collecting hygiene items and school supplies for Fostering Hope, a ministry that helps fostering families and children in the Conway area. Each church collects non-perishable food items and other needed items monthly for another Conway ministry, CAP (Churches Assisting People). The two congregations are always willing to “reach out” to others in their times of need!

I haven't mentioned some other activities at the churches or improvements or “face-lifts” that have been made to their facilities, but I simply want to say that the Antioch and New El Bethel folks are VERY SPECIAL people! Again, Darrell and I love and appreciate them so very much and look forward to some ongoing and fruitful ministry together!

Respectfully submitted,



Dickie Knight, Senior Pastor
September 28, 2022

ASSOCIATE PASTOR'S REPORT
Antioch/New El Bethel Charge
2022

It seems unreal that Dickie and I are in our sixth year serving the Antioch/New El Bethel Charge. The past six years have been filled with many challenges as we have dealt with the pandemic and several deaths, but they have also been filled with enormous blessings for which we are both thankful.

This past year has allowed us to return to some degree of normalcy, yet it seems we have a way to go to get back to the activities and participation we experienced before the pandemic. Our worship services are traditional and well received by the members, but the lack of a musician has presented challenges in planning since we are limited to what's available in recorded form. I continue to record the music for all of our services and provide the bulletins for Antioch each Sunday. This seems like a small part of our ministry, but one I hope is an example that God uses us all in small ways to support the overall ministry of the church.

I am especially happy with our ability to offer special services at both churches during Lent and Advent. During Lent, our Ash Wednesday Services have been well received as well as our Maundy Thursday Services. We rotate each year between the churches and strive to create intimate experiences unique to each congregation. During Advent, we have celebrated Christmas Eve at both churches with special Communion services. In addition, we have established the tradition of a Candlelight Service at the Antioch Cemetery that has been well received by the community. We have added Children's Moments to our services at both churches to meet the needs of our families with small children. We have plans to start Children's Church at New El Bethel this fall. Both churches are having Homecoming Services this fall, something that has not occurred in the past three years.

Both churches continue to support their communities through mission projects. On the second Sunday of each month, we collect food donations for CAP (Churches Assisting People), a multi-denominational ministry in the Conway area. We also adopt families at Christmas and continually seek to support individuals in need. At New El Bethel, we plan to return to having our Winter Coat Give-Away this fall. We are working with the youth at Antioch to identify mission projects they can do as a

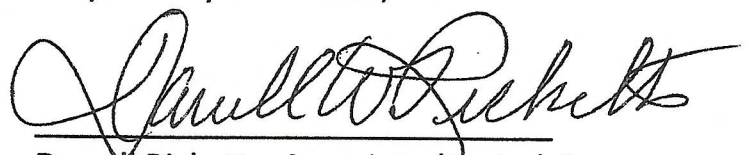
part of our youth fellowship. We have collected personal hygiene items and school supplies for Fostering Hope, a ministry in Conway that supports foster children and their families. Both churches are full of the love of God and show it through their actions.

We are proud of both churches and their financial support of the ministry. Both have paid 100% of their apportionments each year and will do the same this year. They have identified needed maintenance on their facilities and completed several projects including: Antioch UMC – new letterboard sign, replacement of HVAC system, repaired roof leaks, painted the ceiling, and completed a survey of the cemetery; New El Bethel UMC – painted exterior trim and working to replace the roof damaged by hailstorm.

Loss of several long-time members at both churches has been difficult, but we have celebrated their lives with assurance of their salvation. It will be important for both churches to develop plans to reach out in their communities and invite others to join our church families. With the tremendous growth in Horry County, there is no doubt that the harvest is plentiful.

I would be remiss if I didn't mention the pastoral care provided by Dickie and the impact it has had on the lives of our members. Since I am still working full-time, he continually follows up with members who are shut-in as well as regulars who miss services. He communicates our love for them and keeps me well informed on how everyone is doing. While some may worry about numbers, he reminds me that ministry is about people, and we strive to support the members of these two congregations with love, prayers, and spiritual guidance. I look forward to continuing to learn from Dickie and believe that God will continue to bless our ministry together.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Darrell Ricketts". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath the name.

Darrell Ricketts, Associate (Junior) Pastor
September 28, 2022

Minutes of the Charge Conference

The Charge Conference for the ANTIOCH - NEW EL BETHEL CHARGE (276700) of the Marion District of the South Carolina Annual Conference was held The Charge Conference for the ANTIOCH - NEW EL BETHEL CHARGE (276700) of the Marion District of the South Carolina Annual Conference was held 09/10/23 at New El Bethel United Methodist Church chaired by Rev. Steve Brown. A devotional service was conducted by Rev. Brown.

I. Mission

The mission of the United Methodist Church is to make and nurture disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. Achieving a bold mission requires setting intentional goals. Please be prepared to dialogue about the following questions at Charge Conference. If your church doesn't have formal goal, then discuss programs/ministries that fulfill the mission of the church.

A. What were your key goals for making and nuturing disciples for this past year?

Antioch/Conway (276700): No specific goals were established to make and nurture disciples this past year. As a small-membership church, the members of Antioch are challenged to share their faith with others, to invite the unchurched to worship services, and to encourage each other to grow in their discipleship.

New El Bethel (277101): New El Bethel did not establish any specific goals for making and nurturing disciples this past year. Through the proclamation of the Word of God each Sunday, the members of New El Bethel are challenged and encouraged to reach out to others with the love of Jesus, to invite the unchurched to worship, and to support each other to grow in their discipleship.

B. How are you making progress towards reaching the goals stated above?

Antioch/Conway (276700): No goals were established, so no progress has been made.

New El Bethel (277101): No goals were established, so no progress has been made.

C. Among these goals, what are you most excited about?

Antioch/Conway (276700): I believe that members of Antioch are trying to reach out to others with the Good News of Jesus and His love.

New El Bethel (277101): Even though no goals were established, I believe there are New El Bethel members who love the Lord and seek to be effective witnesses for Christ beyond the walls of the church.

D. Church Vitality

While numbers are not the only factor of vitality, they are helpful in providing clarity of our church's present reality. Below is the reported data from your church's last two year-end Statistical Tables.

Church	Year	Avg. Worship Attendance	Total Professing Members	Avg. Sunday School Attendance	Total Number of People in Christian	Received on Profession of Faith Through Confirmation	Received on Profession of Faith (not in Confirmation)
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					Formation Groups		
Antioch/Conway (276700)	2022	20	65	0	28	0	0
	2021	20	69	0	42	0	0
New El Bethel (277101)	2022	25	120	0	25	0	0
	2021	25	122	0	34	0	0

E. Tools for Planning

What is your church's specific plan to reach new people for Jesus Christ? What tools are you using to foster growth (i.e. Forward Focus, Natural Church Development, SHIFT, Ken Callahan's "Twelve Keys to an Effective Church", etc.)?

Antioch/Conway (276700): At the present time, there are no specific plans to reach new people for Jesus Christ. Because of the growing and changing landscape of the community around Antioch, a plan to reach people with the Good News of Jesus needs to be established.

New El Bethel (277101): New El Bethel does not have specific plans to reach new people for Jesus Christ, but through the personal witness of church members, others may want to come and experience the warmth of Christian love and fellowship.

II. Nurture

A. Does your church have a visitation program? Please describe.

Antioch/Conway (276700): Antioch does not have a visitation plan at the current time.

New El Bethel (277101): New El Bethel does not have a visitation program.

B. Does your church have a congregational care program (i.e. Stephen's Ministry, divorce care, counseling center, grief group, etc.)? Please describe.

Antioch/Conway (276700): Antioch does not have an organized congregational care program, but being a small-membership church, the members do a good job at caring for one another, especially during times of crisis, i.e. times of grief. If the members hear about needs of people in the community, they are very willing to help in whatever ways they can.

New El Bethel (277101): New El Bethel does not have a congregational care program, but as a small-membership church, the members are good at taking care of one another, especially during times of grief and other crises. If the congregation discovers other needs beyond the walls of the church, they will respond in reaching out to those in need.

III. Outreach and Witness

A. How is your church reaching out in service to the community and the world?

Antioch/Conway (276700): In addition to supporting our connectional denomination through apportionment giving, the members of Antioch support two local ministries: CAP (Churches Assisting People) and Fostering Hope (a ministry to "fostering" families).

New El Bethel (277101): New El Bethel has always been faithful in supporting our connectional denomination through apportionment giving, and the congregation is very supportive of two local ministries: CAP (Churches Assisting People) and Fostering Hope (a ministry to "fostering" families).

The number of persons from your church serving in mission/community ministries reported in your church's last year-end Statistical Tables.

Antioch/Conway (276700): 10

New El Bethel (277101): 20

- B. How has your church engaged in ministry with children, youth, and young adults beyond your local church this year (i.e. Scouts, Child Care, Basketball League, school partnerships, dialogues, etc.)? How did these experiences impact the mission and ministry of your church?

Antioch/Conway (276700): Antioch has not engaged in ministry with children, youth, and young adults beyond the local church this year.

New El Bethel (277101): New El Bethel has not engaged in ministry with children, youth, and young adults beyond the local church this year.

- C. Has your church engaged in ministry with other United Methodist Churches, with ecumenical partners, and in cross racial/cultural experiences (i.e. pulpit or choir exchanges, joint projects, dialogues, etc.)? How did these experiences impact the mission and ministry of your church?

Antioch/Conway (276700): Antioch has not engaged in ministry with other United Methodist Churches (except with her "sister" church, New El Bethel UMC), ecumenical partners, and in cross racial/cultural experiences this year.

New El Bethel (277101): New El Bethel has not engaged in ministry with other United Methodist Churches (except with her "sister" church, Antioch UMC), with ecumenical partners, and in cross racial/cultural experiences this year.

IV. Submit the following:

- A. Report of the Church Council (Oral composite report plus any other written reports such as UMW, UMM, UMYF)
- B. Report of the Pastor (State of the Church. ¶ 340 BOD 2016, Continuing Education Report)
- C. Reports of other clergy and applicable Continuing Education Reports (all categories)
- D. Report of Trustees
- E. *Report of the Committee on Nominations and Leadership Development - print copies for members of Charge Conference
 - PPRC Roster
 - Lay Member to 2024 Annual Conference - do not print; submit names online
 - Official Roll and Attendance Record for 2024 - print copies for District Superintendent and Secretary for keeping roll at Council meetings
- F. *Recommended Ministerial Support
- G. Accountable Reimbursement Policy
- H. 2024 Budget
- I. Treasurer's Report
- J. Report of the Committee on Finance
- K. Parsonage Report

- L. Report of Local Church(es) Safe Sanctuary Policy (Attach copies)
- M. Epworth Children's Home Local Church Representative - do not print; submit name on Nominations and Leadership Report
- N. Conference or District Nominations form - do not print; submit names online
- O. 2023-24 High School Junior and Senior List and current college students (¶ 232 BOD 2016) do not print, submit names online
- P. Local Church Policy on Sexual Misconduct (Attach copy, see sample here: [Sample-Local-Church-Policy-Statement-on-Misconduct-of-a-Sexual-Nature-2016.pdf \(umcsc.org\)](#))

*Vote required at charge conference

V. Personnel

1. Who are recommended by the Pastor/Parish Relations Committee: (*vote, *v 2/3 = two thirds vote)
 - A. as candidates for ordained ministry (¶¶ 258.2(g)9, 310.1(e)) (*v 2/3)?
 - B. for continuation as candidates for ordained ministry (¶¶ 258.2(g)9, 310.1(e)) (*v)?
2. List the names of the persons the church has given to the United Methodist Ministry?
3. Who are recommended as Local Church Lay Servants (¶ 266) (*v)?
 - A. New:
 - B. Renewed: Donna Calhoun Beata Lisandrelli Paul Lisandrelli Randall Mishoe Willa Mae Mishoe
4. Who are recommended as Certified Lay Servants (¶ 266) (*v)?
 - A. New:
 - B. Recertified:
5. Who are recommended as Certified Lay Speakers (¶ 267) (*v)?
 - A. New:
 - B. Recertified:
6. Who are recommended as Certified Lay Ministers (¶ 268) (*v)?
 - A. New:
 - B. Recertified:

VI. Stewardship

One way the local church participates in the world wide mission of the church is through apportionments (¶ 247.14).

Antioch/Conway (276700)

A. What percent of apportionments were paid in 2022? 100%

What do you expect to pay in 2023?

B. If you are not paying 100% of your apportionments, please explain why, and what are your plans to move toward 100% payment?

C. Are you up to date on Direct Billing? Yes

If not, what is your current balance and plan to address it?

Do you plan to enroll in the Conference Forgiveness Plan? No

D. Has a 2022 Audit been completed and report submitted to the District Office? Yes

New EI Bethel (277101)

A. What percent of apportionments were paid in 2022? 100%

What do you expect to pay in 2023? 100%

B. If you are not paying 100% of your apportionments, please explain why, and what are your plans to move toward 100% payment?

C. Are you up to date on Direct Billing? Yes

If not, what is your current balance and plan to address it?

Do you plan to enroll in the Conference Forgiveness Plan? No

D. Has a 2022 Audit been completed and report submitted to the District Office? Yes

Presiding Elder or District Superintendent

Secretary

CHURCH COUNCIL COMPOSITE REPORT
NEW EL BETHEL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
OCTOBER 2022 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 2023

On-going Ministries assisting various people/agencies/members, which include:

- Benevolence Offering to assist individuals coming to the church needing assistance,
- CAP Food Drive providing food for needy individuals within our community,
- Birthday Celebration/Collection supports our Children's Ministry and celebrates members,
- Facebook Live Broadcasts allows members and visitors to watch worship service virtually,
- Collection of Aluminum Cans and Tabs - cans help Academy of Hope and tabs help Shriners with expenses of transportation of sick/injured children,
- Continued with our Easter Lilies and Christmas Poinsettias in Honor of or In Memory of members loved ones,
- Celebrated Father's Day with a brunch provided by the ladies of our congregation,
- Celebrated Mother's Day with a brunch provided by the men of our congregation,
- Celebration our Annual Homecoming Worship Service in October.

Special Ministries adopted this year, such as:

- Participated in both collection days for Epworth Children's Home,
- Started and staffed our Children's Ministry during worship service,
- Adopted the 49 residents of Noel Villa Independent Living Apartment Complex with personal hygiene products for Christmas,
- Held a surprise baby shower welcoming Micah Opoku for his parents, Miriam Nyurles and Obed Opoku,

Joined our sister church in Special Ministries/Services this year, such as:

- Operation Christmas Child/Shoebox Project,
- Collection of Back-to-School Supplies and Hygiene Products for Fostering Hope, and
- Participated in 4-week Advent Bible Study, Christmas Eve Services, Palm Sunday and Holy Week Services.

New El Bethel celebrated Valentine's Day, Mother's Day, Father's Day with delicious meals, fellowship, and fun. Celebrated Easter with a Flowering of the Cross Ceremony, Christmas with Advent Services with readings by church members, and All Saints Sunday with the celebration of family members we have lost in the past 12 months.

New El Bethel has been conducting meetings and watching/discussing associated videos preparing for a final decision to disaffiliate from or remain as members of the United Methodist Church.

Report of Pastor 2023

The report of the pastor in charge shall include the names of all persons involved in the changes in membership and other items outlined in the 2016 Book of Discipline (¶¶ 234, 340). This report should cover as fully as possible the work of the pastor. Care should be taken not to duplicate the reports of the Church Council, committees, organizations, and officers of the charge.

Copies of this report should be filed with the recording secretary, pastor, district superintendent, and chairperson of witness or evangelism ministries.

Church <u>New El Bethel 277101</u>	Charge <u>ANTIOCH - NEW EL BETHEL CHARGE 276700</u>
District <u>Marion District</u>	Conference <u>South Carolina Conference</u>
For the period beginning 09/28/2022 and ending 09/10/2023.	

1. List those who have been received into baptized membership since last report (Record names and dates).

a. Infants baptized since last report

Name	Date
None	

b. All others: children, youth, and adults baptized since last report.

Name	Date
None	

2. List those who have been received into professing membership since the last report (Record names and dates).

a. On profession of faith or restored

Name	Date
None	

b. From other United Methodist churches.

Name	Date
Michael Mooney	05/21/2023
Matthew Winburn	07/16/2023

c. From other non-United Methodist churches.

Name	Date
Avis Sessions	04/28/2023
Brett Christman	05/21/2023

3. List those who have been removed from the professing membership since last report (Record names and dates).

a. By action of the Charge Conference, or trial court, or withdrawal

Name	Date
None	

b. By transfer to other United Methodist churches:

Name	Date
None	

c. By transfer to other non-United Methodist churches.

Name	Date
None	

Donna Ocker	04/26/2023
Gordon Ocker	04/26/2023

d. By death.

Name	Date
None	

4. Have the membership rolls been audited? Yes

a. If not, why not?

b. Who has moved from your community since the last Charge Conference?

c. What has been done to relate them to another church?

5. The pastor shall give a report on the State of the Church (Please do not duplicate report of the Church Council or other committees. Only the highlights, from the pastor's perspective, the major issues or events related to the health of the church). (Attach as a supplement.)

6. The Pastor shall give an account of pastoral ministry as it relates to (§ 340): Elders, provisional elders, and local pastors have a fourfold ministry of Word, Sacrament, Order and Service. Please describe how you have fulfilled your calling this year in the following ways: (Attach as a supplement.)

a. Preach and teach the Word.

b. Provide pastoral care and counsel.

c. Administer the sacraments.

d. Order the life of the church for service in mission and ministry.

e. Include as a part of the report a statement outlining the pastor's program of continuing education and spiritual growth for the past year and plans for the year to come (§ 351).

Signed

Richard H. Knight

Printed Name

Richard H. Knight

Date

September 10, 2023

PASTOR'S REPORT
Antioch/New El Bethel Charge
2023

What a privilege and blessing it has been to serve the Antioch/New El Bethel Charge alongside my friend and partner in ministry, Darrell Ricketts, for the past six years! As we continue through our seventh year together in ministry with these two wonderful congregations, we are excited about everything God has in store for us. We continue to receive much love, care, and appreciation from the folks at both churches, and we try to let them know how much they mean to us as well. Darrell and I are so grateful for our shared ministry with them!

Over the past year, we have been continuing through a few post-COVID pandemic struggles at Antioch and New El Bethel. Attendance at Antioch is close to where it was before the pandemic, but at New El Bethel, we are not reaching the average of forty or so persons in attendance as we were doing before COVID hit. There's good news, though! Both churches did well financially through the pandemic, and we continue to experience good giving at both churches, thanks to the faithfulness of the people. We are grateful!

One blessing that came out of the pandemic time is that a Facebook Live service began at New El Bethel and continues to this day. We don't have any plans to stop these special online worship services, because we're reaching our own people when they can't be present at church, and there are also quite a few other "views" each week as well.

One of the major steps we're taking through 2023 is guiding the Antioch and New El Bethel congregations through the Discernment Process that was distributed to churches just before Christmas in 2022. Darrell and I decided that we didn't have time to take Antioch and New El Bethel through the Discernment Process early this year, so we have been going through the Process throughout 2023 in hopes that both churches will be ready to make a decision by early 2024 to STAY United Methodist or DISAFFILIATE from our denomination. We have had several discernment meetings, and we have also challenged the people of both congregations to view the two video series by Rob Renfroe and Adam Hamilton. By so doing, they could hear two perspectives about staying or disaffiliating!

I am so thankful that we are getting back to normal, for the most part, at both churches. I just hope that the two congregations will be able to develop plans to reach out into the community and invite others, especially the unchurched, to come and find the warmth of Christian fellowship that they can offer. Horry County and the Conway area are growing, so maybe we'll be able to "latch on" to this growth and attract others to our worship services and our times of fellowship at Antioch and New El Bethel. Both congregations certainly have some potential to experience numerical and spiritual growth in the years ahead. Hopefully, Darrell and I can encourage and promote a positive attitude among the members of the two churches about "making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world"!

As I bring this relatively brief Pastor's Report to a close, I want to say that the Antioch and New El Bethel folks are VERY SPECIAL people to Darrell and me! We love leading them in worship on Sundays, we enjoy having fellowship with them before and after services, and we love to eat and have conversation and laughter with them on a regular basis. While we don't know exactly what the future holds for Antioch and New El Bethel United Methodist Churches, we DO know that God holds their future in His hands. We can rest assured that whatever happens, God is in control, and we'll give Him the honor, glory, and praise He deserves!

Respectfully submitted,



Dickie Knight, Senior Pastor

September 10, 2023

ASSOCIATE PASTOR'S REPORT Antioch/New El Bethel Charge 2023

Rev. Knight and I are beginning our seventh year of service to the Antioch/New El Bethel Charge. The past six years have been filled with many challenges as we have dealt with the pandemic and several deaths, but they have also been filled with enormous blessings for which we are both thankful.

As I look back on our ministry this year, it seems our work has been overshadowed by the current upheaval in the United Methodist Church. When the Conference released its guidelines for disaffiliation in December, we were faced with the challenge of how to adequately present the issues to these two small congregations and what would be the best way to guide them towards their future ministry. When the deadline of March 1 was communicated by the Conference for any seeking to disaffiliate during the Summer Conference this year, we knew that it would be impossible to do an adequate job of allowing the members to become familiar enough with the issues on both sides and also sort through the financial requirements set forth by the Conference. We decided it would be best to advise both congregations to begin the discernment process in January 2023 and continue it until January 2024. To this point we have presented information on the issues, including the viewing of videos by both Rob Renfroe and Adam Hamilton. We have been careful not to tell the members how they should feel or vote but to allow them to discern the direction the church should take. The discussions thus far have been cordial and open to how each individual member feels about the issues. We have scheduled a straw poll to be taken by the first of September to determine the direction they are headed in and what steps should be taken next.

While the discernment process seems to have monopolize much of our time, both congregations have continued in various ministries to serve others. Rev. Knight continues to lead and inspire members to show love in various ways to each other and their fellow man. I am fortunate to serve with him and be mentored by him in working at these churches. Several times throughout the year both congregations have partnered with the Fostering Hope ministry in Conway in collecting items for foster children in the area. We have collected school supplies as well as personal hygiene items for these students. One of our members, Lee Ellis, and his family

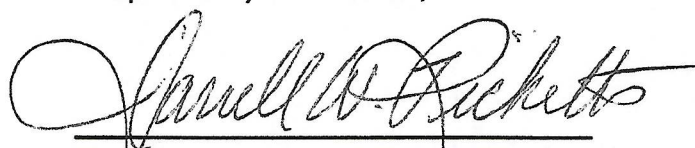
sponsored a fundraiser for a young man involved in a boating accident in the area. Although we only have a few children in these small churches, we have offered children's moments during the morning worship, and at New El Bethel, we have volunteers who hold Children's Church to engage children attending in age-appropriate activities.

We continue our monthly fellowship meals at New El Bethel and our quarterly birthday celebration meals at Antioch. These have been opportunities to have open discussions about disaffiliation and strengthen the "ties that bind". We continue to offer monthly fellowship gatherings for our young adults at Antioch as well as a monthly Men's Group at New El Bethel. Rev. Knight provided Facebook Live Bible Studies during both Advent and Lent which were viewed by not only our members, but others in the community.

Personally, I retired from full-time teaching in January 2023, which has allowed me to focus on completing the Course of Study classes. At present, I have four more of the basic classes to complete. I plan to complete them this year through Duke. These classes have broadened my knowledge of professional ministry and I hope that the things I learn will allow me to serve God and my fellow man better.

As both churches approach a decision on disaffiliation, I too must discern the direction God is leading me. As I said at our last discernment meeting at New El Bethel, I don't think the most important question facing these two congregations right now is whether they stay UMC or disaffiliate. I think the most important question is - Where is God leading them in ministry? How can they engage in meaningful ways with their communities that shines a bright light of hope and salvation so that others want to be a part of it? The life of these two churches is not dependent on the sign or emblem on the building, but the fire burning in their hearts for Christ and their fellow man.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Darrell Ricketts". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Darrell Ricketts, Associate (Junior) Pastor
September 28, 2022

MINUTES OF THE CHURCH CONFERENCE

Church: New El Bethel UMC

Date: February 11, 2024

A Church Conference was held on this date pursuant to Paragraph 248 of The Book of Discipline for the purpose of voting on separation from the United Methodist Church. The only matter before the Church Conference is the vote on the matter of separation. The following, along with Guidelines, are offered as a record of what took place.

46 Number of professing members on New El Bethel UMC's roll

30 Number of professing members signed in to vote

30 Number of votes cast

27 Number of YES voters to separate from the UMC

3 Number of NO votes to stay UMC

0 Number of improper ballots thrown out

90% Percentage of YES votes

10% Percentage of NO votes

The motion to separate was passed

Yes No

Signatures of those counting: Trustee



Trustee



District Superintendent

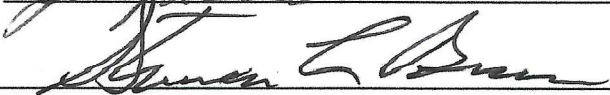


EXHIBIT A

Certification of the Local Church Regarding Vote to Separate

The New El Bethel UMC ("local church") certifies that at least two-thirds (2/3) of its professing members present and voting at a properly called church conference of the membership held on 2/11/2024 have voted to affirm that they cannot function as a United Methodist Church due to their firmly held beliefs that the denomination has ceased to consistently uphold and abide by its stated doctrine on issues of human sexuality even without changing the *Book of Discipline*.

In addition, two-thirds (2/3) of the professing members present and voting at the said church conference, held after a period of prayer and discernment which lasted a minimum of thirty (30) days, and during which at least one congregational information meeting was held, have authorized the Local Church to enter into this agreement, and authorized and directed any two trustees to execute those documents and take those actions necessary to carry out the provisions of this agreement.

Certified that the above answers are true and correct for the professing members who voted to enter into this Agreement to Separate.

By: [Signature]

Print Name: Jerry L Crist

Title: Trustee

Attest:

By: [Signature]

Print Name: Jonathan E. Misher

Title: Trustee

[Signature]

Secretary

[Signature]

Presiding Elder

Date: February 11, 2024

NEW EL BETHEL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
REPORT OF DISCERNMENT PROCEDSS
FEBRUARY 11, 2024

Members of New El Bethel United Methodist Church first started meetings on January 15, 2023 for the purpose of presenting both sides of the Discernment Process. We had seven Church Council Meetings during the year and had a "Straw Vote" on August 8, 2023. The vote was to disaffiliate from the United Methodist Church. We watched videos on staying with the United Methodist Church presented by Adam Hamilton and videos on going with the Global Methodist Church presented by Bob Renfroe. We had a pastor from Georgetown, Rev. Steve Garner, discussing some of the things his churches had done to leave the United Methodist Church. Rev. Garner answered questions about the process they went through.

In addition, we had various meetings of our Finance Committee, Membership Committee, and consulting with attorneys during this process, as well as a few other committee meetings. The members have prayed collectively and independently for God's will to be done during this process

SC Conference of the UMC
 Agreement to Separate Paragraph 4a's Local Church's Obligations
 Church: New El Bethel , MA district
 GCFA: 277101

calculated field
 Values are rounded to nearest whole dollar.

4.a.i	Appraised value of real property & liquid assets Church property at (put in address of property) Church, 2811 Church St, Conway	Date of value	Value	Description
		11/28/2023	331,000.00	Such as church, fellowship hall, cemetery, etc. no mention of cemetery

Debt on property at December 31 (enter as a negative)
 No debt

Liquid Assets (list bank and investment accounts) at December 31

Conway National Bank 2701	43,976.15	bank recon
Conway National Bank 2720	18,072.61	bank recon

Subtotal	393,048.76	
10% tithe upon separation	39,305.00	
4.a.ii	2023 unpaid apportionments	paid in full
4.a.ii	2024 apportionments through June 30	1,810.00
	2024 apportionments paid	-
		This amount will change if you make payments prior to cl
4.a.iii	12 months apportionments based on 2024	3,620.00
4.a.iv	Unpaid clergy salaries and benefits (direct bill)	-
		RE and PL, no direct bill
4.a.v	Unfunded pension obligation	1/1/2024 90.00
	Estimated amount due upon separation	44,825.00

**New El Bethel United Methodist Church
Professing Membership Roll
February 11, 2024**

Sharon Barfield
Annes Barnhill
Hillary Bellamy
Chuck Bowman
Donna Calhoun
Kaytlin Causey
Brett Christman
Phyllis Clark
Kathy Cooper
Gerri Cox
Jerry Crist
Kathy Crist
Bob Fregeau
Brenda Fregeau
Ann Goncz
Linda Gregory
Beata Lisandrelli
Paul Lisandrelli
Donna McGarvey
George McGarvey
Richard Mensah
Dock Mishoe
Jon Mishoe
Randall Mishoe

Tammy Mishoe
Willa Mae Mishoe
Mike Mooney
Jim Munshower
Roberta Munshower
Obed Opoku
Tommy Price
Vickie Graham Price
Ruth Ann Richardson
Teresa Richardson
Trent Richardson
Bill Schreiber
Helen Schreiber
Avis Sessions
Johnny Sessions
Craig Thompkins
Millie Thompkins
Becky Thompson
Susan Thompson
Sallie Beth Todd
Mary Richardson Wagner
Matt Winburn