

1 **2-Resolution Supporting Deliberations for New Expressions of Methodism**

2 *As per Baltimore-Washington Conference Rule Para. 3006.2.c, this resolution was reviewed by*
3 *the Conference Secretary and was found consistent with the current Book of Discipline.*

4 **Submitted by:** John C. Hines, Jr., Lay Member to Annual Conference, Mt. Zion UMC in
5 Lothian

6 **Co-Sponsor:** Greg Witte, Lay Member to Annual Conference, Cedar Grove UMC in Deale

7 **Whereas:** There are many factions within The United Methodist Church who maintain
8 completely different approaches to scriptural interpretation, which yields completely different
9 positions on the matter of human sexuality. Each faction's beliefs are core and uncompromisable,
10 and therefore, are irreconcilable; and,

11 **Whereas:** living out these beliefs has led to many years of civil disobedience, in-fighting, hurt,
12 anger, and pain, which will not cease until changes are made; and,

13 **Whereas:** the actions of the Special General Conference of 2019 and our Judicial Council have
14 made it clear that the debated doctrines in our Book of Discipline will not be changed, within the
15 foreseeable future; and,

16 **Whereas:** leaders from both factions have entered into deliberations to create new and equitable
17 paths to resolve this impasse; and,

18 **Whereas:** we all desire to see an end to the in-fighting, and to see all of our members pursue the
19 mission of the church in the manner that they feel led by the Holy Spirit.

20 **Be it resolved:** that we lament and mourn the fact that unity, as we have known it up until now,
21 is no longer viable for the future of our church, and we recognize that changes are now
22 necessary. In light of this understanding, the Baltimore-Washington Conference supports the
23 ongoing deliberations between various leaders within our United Methodist Church to explore
24 new expressions of Methodism, wherein all can find a home with like-minded members, without
25 compromise of their core beliefs or encumbered by strained organizational relationships, to
26 worship and minister as they feel led by the Holy Spirit.

27 *The Connectional Table voted non-concurrence on this resolution.*