

**PETITION
to the
2022 MOUNTAIN SKY CONFERENCE**

TITLE: CLOSURE OF LEROY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH—FLEMING, CO

ACTION TO BE VOTED ON:

- 1 BE IT RESOLVED, that
- 2 The Leroy United Methodist Church – Fleming, CO, is declared closed, effective July 1, 2022; and
- 3 The Mountain Sky Annual Conference Board of Trustees shall manage the disposition of assets and
- 4 property according to the provisions of the 2016 *Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church* and
- 5 Conference policies on the use and disposition of closed local church property.

RATIONALE (Not debatable):

The LeRoy United Methodist Church came to be part of the denomination from its roots in the Evangelical United Brethren. It has been a faithful partner in ministry, up until several years ago when, after an exhaustive effort, the Mountain Sky Conference was unable to appoint a pastor to serve there. The congregation had dwindled to a small number of attendees. At that time, the congregation found and hired a pastor on their own, and determined (in an informal, but unanimous) straw poll with the DS present that they would prefer to leave the United Methodist Church. For all intents and purposes, this has been the case for the last three years. They have been operating, and growing, as the LeRoy Community Church during this time. As with so many other things, COVID delayed the formal vote of the Annual Conference, and now it is time to take this action.

The method of leaving is by closure. In the case of LeRoy, the church property is deeded with a reverter clause. This means that if the property were ever to cease being used as a place of worship it would revert back to the family that donated the property in the first place back in 1918. This takes precedence over the Methodist trust clause, with the result that the Mountain Sky Conference has no trust interest to exercise upon closure of the worshipping congregation as a United Methodist entity.

EVALUATION (Not debatable):

How will we know when the Mountain Sky Conference has done this?

Following annual conference ratification of this closure, the Conference Board of Trustees will execute and monitor steps necessary to finalize the closure of the LeRoy United Methodist Church and report back to the Annual Conference at its 2023 session.

ATTACHMENTS (Additional Information / Not Debatable)

PETITION DETAILS

This petition is a

- | | |
|-----------|------------------------|
| <u>XX</u> | Binding Action |
| _____ | Non-Binding Resolution |

Effective Date:

Effective upon vote to ratify the closure

Termination Date:

This matter terminates upon performance of all outstanding matters set forth in the closure process.

Does this petition modify the Annual Conference Standing Rules and Operational Procedures (SROP)?

Yes
 No

Conference Agency responsible for implementation and termination review: **Conference Trustees**

PETITION ADVOCATE

This person will be the contact person for the Petition before and during the annual conference session and will be responsible for overseeing the presentation of the Petition in Hearing Groups and Plenary.

Name: Rev. Chris Carr, Trinity District Superintendent
Address: P.O. Box 462200
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Email: ccarr@mtnskyumc.org
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PETITION SUPPORTERS:

Names of additional persons who wish to be identified in support of the Petition.

Dorothy Larson	Laity, LeRoy United Methodist Church
Denise King	Laity, LeRoy United Methodist Church
Gary Shmidt	Laity, LeRoy United Methodist Church

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

Will there be any identifiable financial impact to the Conference?

Yes
 No

If "Yes," please complete the information below.

To Be Completed by the Originator of the Petition

Cost: \$
Over what span of time (check one):
 One Time
 One Year
 Multiple Years

To Be Completed by Conference Council on Finance and Administration (CFA)

Review by CFA on: 09/30/2022

Included in proposed 2023 budget?
 Yes

No

Amount if included \$

May be considered for budgets in future years?

Yes
 No

Projected Total Amount \$

Recommendation by CFA concerning funding

Reason for recommendation