

1 **Document: 650.02**  
2 **Name: Discontinuance of Naperville: Wheatland Salem**  
3 **Author(s): Prairie Central District Superintendent, Rev. Wendy Hardin Hermann**  
4 **CCFA Action:**

5 **ACTION:**

6 WHEREAS the NAPERVILLE: WHEATLAND SALEM UNITED METHODIST CHURCH (“the  
7 Church”) located in the City of NAPERVILLE Illinois at the commonly known address 1852 95th Street  
8 Naperville, IL 60564, in Naperville Township of Will County, IL was formed and has witnessed to Jesus  
9 Christ and served its community and the world for many years and having closed on December 31, 2025,  
10 and

11 WHEREAS the Church faithfully served the community in the City of Naperville, IL, and

12 WHEREAS, pursuant to Paragraph 2549.4(b) (Ad Interim procedures) of *The Book of Discipline of The*  
13 *United Methodist Church 2020/2024*, the Prairie Central District Superintendent recommended that the  
14 church be closed due to exigent circumstances, namely, the inability to sustain operations due to a lack of  
15 funds.

16 WHEREAS, the presiding Bishop and the majority of the District Superintendents of the Northern Illinois  
17 Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church (“the Conference”) consented to the District  
18 Superintendent’s recommendation to discontinue the Church, effective December 31, 2025.

19 WHEREAS, the Prairie Central District Committee on Building and Location voted to concur with the  
20 District Superintendent’s recommendation to discontinue said church.

21 WHEREAS, church discontinued regular operations effective December 31, 2025.

22 THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Annual Conference hereby affirms that the Church discontinue  
23 operations.

24 BE FURTHER RESOLVED that all properties and assets of said Church, including, but not limited to  
25 its existing and future gifts, devises, and bequests, its existing personal property and accounts and its  
26 real property commonly known as 1852 95th Street Naperville, IL 60564, title of which has vested in the  
27 Conference through the Board of Trustees of the Conference pursuant to Paragraph 2549.4(b) shall remain  
28 the properties and assets of the Northern Illinois Conference of The United Methodist Church subject to  
29 the 2020/2024 Book of *Discipline*, and the By-Laws of the Northern Illinois Conference.

30 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, to minimize the risk of loss of future bequests to the Conference and  
31 protect the integrity and ownership of the property of the church held in trust for the denomination, the  
32 Northern Illinois Annual Conference recommends that the said Church, though discontinued under the  
33 Canon Law of The United Methodist Church, nevertheless be maintained in perpetuity under the Illinois  
34 civil law by adopting a reincorporation thereof by the Bishop under Section 46b of the Illinois Religious  
35 Corporation Act, with the incumbent Conference Board of Trustees named as trustees of the Discontinued  
36 Church under the procedure established by Article VII “Discontinued or Abandoned Church  
37 Reincorporation” of the By-laws of the Northern Illinois Annual Conference of The United Methodist  
38 Church and that the Conference take whatever action is necessary to protect the integrity and ownership  
39 of all property including any existing or future bequests held in trust for the benefit of the denomination;  
40 and

41 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the members of the said Church shall be transferred to Naperville:  
42 Grace UMC unless any such members shall inform the pastor of the transferee church otherwise; and

43 BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the appropriate officers of Conference are authorized and directed to  
44 execute on behalf of the said Conference any and all such additional documents as legal counsel shall  
45 recommend to effectuate the above.

46 **RATIONALE:**

47 After many faithful years of service, ministry and mission in the name of Jesus Christ, Naperville:  
48 Wheatland Salem United Methodist Church has come to a place of transition and closure. Membership  
49 and financial sustainability have been declining for many years. The decline reached the point where  
50 foreclosure of the real property was being raised by the holder of a large mortgage on the property, namely,  
51 Red Door. To protect the Conference's ability to preserve the property, closure under Paragraph 2459.4(b)  
52 became necessary subject to approval at the next Annual Conference.

1 **Document: 702.06**  
2 **Name: Change to Conference Housing Policy**  
3 **Author(s): Conference Board of Trustees; Annual Conference Shepherding Team**  
4 **CCFA Action:**

5 **ACTION:**

6 In the Standing Rules, Section IV Conference Relations, E. Housing, 2. Conference Housing, delete the  
7 following:

8 Conference Housing: All clergy appointed to the Cabinet, the Conference Program Staff or the  
9 Finance Office shall be provided with adequate housing as required by Standing Rules, or with an  
10 adequate housing (rental and utility) allowance. ~~Where Conference owned housing is available, the~~  
11 ~~appointee shall live in the housing provided.~~ Conference Housing Standards are listed in the Annual  
12 Conference Journal under policies.

13 **RATIONALE:**

14 The Conference Board of Trustees thinks that it is more desirable to have a person live in an area where  
15 they do ministry than to be forced to live in a house we already own. The Trustees are willing to buy/sell  
16 property to allow for better ministry practices.