

Sample Church Resolution Prohibiting the Carrying of Handguns on Church Property

Whereas: all Arkansas United Methodist congregations are encouraged to prohibit the carrying of handguns on church property consistent with 2016 General Conference of the United Methodist Church Resolution 3428 “Our Call to End Gun Violence;” and

Whereas: Arkansas law allows a church to determine whether a person may carry a concealed handgun into church buildings or other places of worship; and

Whereas: pursuant to Arkansas Act 859 of 2017, a church must either place a statutorily prescribed written notice at each church entrance or provide other notice to a person with a license to possess a concealed handgun in order to prohibit the possession of a handgun at a particular physical location; and

Whereas: the effective date of the Act is September 1 2017;

Therefore: we resolve that with the exception of on-duty municipal, county, state or federal law enforcement personnel, carrying a handgun on the property of _____ United Methodist Church is prohibited.

Therefore: we further resolve that signs bearing at least the words “Carrying a handgun is prohibited” that are clearly readable from a distance of at least ten feet shall be posted at each entrance to church property and/or a notice bearing at least the words “Carrying a handgun is prohibited” on church grounds and facilities will be published in each week in the church bulletin and/or on the church’s website on a continuing basis.

This resolution was passed by the _____ United Methodist Church Council/Administrative Board on this _____ day of _____, 2017.

Chair