

Friendswood Methodist Church becomes a Global Methodist Congregation



- Friendswood Methodist is 1 of 294 Methodist Churches out of 598 total churches from the Texas Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church (UMC) to disaffiliate from the denomination.
- Friendswood Methodist voted on October 2, 2022 to disaffiliate from the UMC and to affiliate with the Global Methodist Church (GMC).
- Friendswood Methodist Church officially affiliated with the GMC on January 1, 2023.

FRIENDSWOOD, TX / January 1, 2023 / -- On January 1, 2023, Friendswood Methodist Church officially affiliated with the Global Methodist Church (GMC) after a disaffiliation from the United Methodist Church (UMC). The congregation of Friendswood Methodist entered into a period of discernment in August of 2022 followed by a church-wide vote on October 2. A total of 568 ballots were cast by registered church members and a resolution to disaffiliate from the UMC passed by 81%. Following the vote to disaffiliate from the UMC, the congregation voted by a simple majority to join the GMC.

On December 3, Senior Pastor, Rev. Jim Bass, wrote, “This morning, the Texas Annual Conference met in special session and approved all 294 churches by a 97% margin to disaffiliate. It was a single vote without controversy and full of grace.”

Prior to disaffiliation, Friendswood Methodist Church was known as Friendswood United Methodist Church and was a part of the Texas Annual Conference of the UMC. The Texas Annual Conference represents a region encompassing Galveston, Houston, College Station, Beaumont Texarkana, Longview, Tyler and towns in between.

¹ Friendswood Methodist is now a part of the Eastern Texas Conference of the GMC covering the same area.

Friendswood Methodist Church was founded in 1964. At that time, the church of 70 people rented the local junior high cafeteria for services. The church grew and built the original chapel in 1966. Since that time, Friendswood Methodist has grown to a sprawling campus to include a Worship Center, Wesley Hall, the original chapel as well as administration buildings, meeting rooms and a gymnasium. Friendswood Methodist is home to Bright Beginnings preschool and hosts an incredible number of missions and events throughout the year.

The Global Methodist Church launched on May 1, 2022, whose mission “is to make disciples of Jesus Christ who worship passionately, love extravagantly, and witness boldly.”² Friendswood United Methodist Church is now known as Friendswood Methodist Church as of January 1, 2023.

¹ The Texas Annual Conference United Methodist Church: <https://www.txcumc.org/news/disaffiliations-approved-by-special-session/>

² The Global Methodist Church: <https://globalmethodist.org/launch-information/>