

**A Resolution Regarding the Formation of a Task Force to Look Into Our Policies
Concerning the Safety of Children, Youth, and At-Risk Adults**

Whereas, there is always a need to ensure that children, youth, and at-risk adults are safe in ministries of the United Methodist Church; and

Whereas, the bankruptcy case of the Boy Scouts of America Bankruptcy Reorganization has heightened our awareness of the responsibility United Methodist congregations have to keep children, youth, and at-risk adults safe; and

Whereas, one of the terms of the United Methodist Church settlement as part of the proposed bankruptcy reorganization agreement is that denominational leaders will intensify efforts to prevent and raise awareness of child sexual abuse;

Therefore, be it resolved, that the Arkansas Annual Conference will create a task force to review the Conference Safe Sanctuary policy and recommendations, and other policies to safeguard young people from sexual abuse, update policies as appropriate, and provide appropriate training and resources. The task force shall be appointed by Bishop Gary Mueller and will report its recommendations to the regular session of the Arkansas Annual Conference, scheduled June 1-4, 2022 in Hot Springs, Arkansas.

Submitted by members of the Appointive Cabinet: Rev. John Fleming, Dr Ann Ferris, Dr. Blake Bradford, Dr. Ulysses Washington, Rev. Edna Morgan, Rev. Jim Polk