



**THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
TEXAS ANNUAL CONFERENCE**

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Dear Friends,

The Story Church has thrived for seven years as part of the St. Luke's United Methodist Church family of ministries, pursuing its stated mission to inspire non-religious people to follow Jesus. Over the years, The Story has matured and developed a culture of its own, with its own children's ministry, student ministry, leadership structure and other elements of an independent congregation. I have been in dialogue for the last 18 months with the leadership of both St. Luke's and The Story about whether and how best to launch The Story as a separate congregation. I have decided that this year is the time for that step to be taken for the good of both congregations and their missions, and the St. Luke's Church Council has affirmed that decision.

Thus, The Story will charter as a separate congregation and relocate its main worship center on or before January 1, 2022. The Texas Annual Conference has successfully launched multiple new faith communities and the Conference will support this congregation as it launches. With this transition, St. Luke's will continue its long history of birthing new ministries in order to reach new people for Christ.

I am grateful to the leadership of St. Luke's and The Story for all that has been accomplished so far and anticipate a bright future for both going forward.

Grace and peace,

Scott J. Jones