## First United Methodist Church of Uvalde Theological Statement for disaffilition on grounds of conscience related to human sexuality

FUMC-Uvalde holds to the teachings on human sexuality as contained in the 2016 Book of Discipline.

These are:

ON SINGLENESS, MARRIAGE, AND HUMAN SEXUALITY (DISTILLED FROM UMC BOOK OF DISCIPLINE PARAGRAPH #161 C, E, G AND PARAGRAPH 304.3)

We believe that human sexuality is a gift of God that is to be affirmed as it is exercised within the legal and spiritual covenant of a loving and monogamous marriage between one man and one woman. The practice of homosexuality is incompatible with Christian teaching.

We uphold and honor the integrity of single persons and we reject all social practices that discriminate as well as social attitudes that are prejudicial against persons who are single.

We are saddened by all expressions of sexual behavior, including pornography, polygamy, and promiscuity, that do not recognize the image of God in each individual or that seek to exploit, abuse, objectify, or degrade others, or that represent less than God’s intentional design for His children. While affirming a scriptural view of sexuality and gender, we welcome all to experience the redemptive grace of Jesus and are committed to being a safe place of refuge, hospitality, and healing for any who may have experienced brokenness in their sexual lives.

Since the Council of Bishops now includes practicing homosexuals who are married to same-sex partners, First United Methodist Church of Uvalde can no longer accept the leadership of our Methodist Bishops and must find a denomination that practices its faith in accordance with its teachings.