

## 2023 Special Called Session

Bishop Connie Mitchell Shelton



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Clergy and lay members of the North Carolina Annual Conference, let's get together in October! The 2023 Special Called Session of the Annual Conference will be held on Saturday, October 7, starting at 10:00 am. Members will join the session virtually through Zoom.

The purpose of the Special Called Session is to ratify or not ratify the Disaffiliation Agreements of the approximately 20 local churches asking to disaffiliate from The United Methodist Church under the provisions of Paragraph 2553 of *The Book of Discipline*. Since this special session call is explicitly for this work, this is the only business that will come to this special conference session, so our gathering should be very brief!

The virtual session will require members to register in advance to confirm your intent to participate. The membership of this called session is, per *The Discipline*, the membership of the Annual Conference elected for the June 2023 regular session.

All lay and clergy members of the Annual Conference will receive an email invitation to confirm your attendance (similar to how it happened in June of this year). The deadline for all Annual Conference members to register their intent to attend the virtual session will be this deadline: September 29, 2023 (that's a Friday) at 5:00 pm, so let us know you're coming. Voting will take place in the virtual meeting platform. There is no provision for a proxy vote.

For non-voting members, please join us, as the special session will be livestreamed. You can access the livestream by visiting the [Special Called session page](#) listed here on the screen. The livestream will also be available in the Conference app as well.

For more information, including the standing rules of the Annual Conference and more, please visit the [Special Called Annual Conference session page](#) listed below. Look forward to seeing you in October!