

PREAMBLE

Whereas the congregation of Owens Mills United Methodist Church has experienced the loss of its physical facility by fire, and whereas they have subsequently studied the future and then inquired about the possibility of merger with the Chemung United Methodist Church, and whereas preliminary discussions with the Chemung United Methodist Church Administrative Board have resulted in agreement to pursue the details of merger, the following resolution is proposed to be voted on at a Charge or Church Conference held in the Chemung United Methodist Church at 7:00 P.M. on April 16, 1987, said Charge or Church Conference to be held for each congregation, and presided over by the District Superintendent at that time.

RESOLUTION FOR MERGER:

Be it resolved that the congregations of Owens Mills United Methodist Church and Chemung United Methodist Church unite in a single, merged congregation effective July 1, 1987. The merged congregation will be located in Chemung, New York, utilizing the United Methodist Church facilities, and will be known as the Chemung United Methodist Church.

Terms and conditions:

1. Membership - Those members of the Owens Mills United Methodist who desire to unite with another church, different from the merged church would make such transfers and arrangements as necessary by July 1, 1987. On July 1, 1987, the remaining members on the roll of the Owens Mills United Methodist church will be administratively transferred to the Chemung United Methodist Church, and included in the roll of the Chemung United Methodist Church.
2. Assets of Owens Mills United Methodist Church - Any fiscal assets held by the Owens Mills Church as of July 1, 1987 will be transferred to the Chemung United Methodist Church, and held in trust or endowment funds named the "Owens Mills Endowment or Trust Fund". Only the

as the merged church

Youth Ministry

interest income earned by this fund shall be expended,
(1) may be used for scholarships for campers in the congregation to the camps of North Central New York Conference such as Casowasco, Camp Aldersgate or other Conference facility or program in camping.
(2) of the interest income from the fund may be used annually in support of the current expenses of the church annual budget. The fund will be in the custody of the Board of Trustees, accountable to the Administrative Board and Charge Conference of the church.

Distribution of Interest earned could be modified in the future by action of the trustee, Administrative Board and Charge Conference.

- 3. Sale of property of Owens Mills Church - The sale of the property of the former location of the Owens Mills church and surrounding land to an agreed upon purchaser of the property will be consummated prior to July 1, 1987.
- 4. Legal fees and court costs - Legal fees and court costs for any and all the details of merger and property sale will be paid for from the assets of the Owens Mills United Methodist Church prior to July 1, 1987

5. Appointments, Pension Fund, and Pastoral Support for 1987 would be paid in full and

FOOTNOTES TO MERGER (Not a part of the resolution, but simply for clarification and information)

- 1. Between April 16, 1987 and July 1, 1987, the incumbent pastors of the congregations and their church officers would work at creating and providing "getting acquainted" opportunities for members of the merging congregations, both in worship and fellowship.
- 2. Until July 1, 1987, the incumbent pastors will be responsible for pastoral services needed by their respective congregations.
- 3. As of July 1, 1987 the pastor of the Chemung United Methodist Church will be the appointed pastor by the Bishop, and the current pastor of the Owens Mills United Church will be eligible for re-assignment by the Bishop and in conjunction with the Cabinet.
- 4. It is expected that the merged congregation act with

Pastoral Support paid in full up to June 1987 for the Owens Mills UMC.

- 6. An appropriate Memorial Marker will be established and paid for by the Owens Mills UMC prior to July 1, 1987
- 7. Historical Records at the Owens Mills

sensitivity and positive resolve to include members of the former Owens Mills United Methodist Church as fully as possible in leadership, service, worship, and fellowship experiences.



CHEMUNG VALLEY DISTRICT
of the
North Central New York Conference
THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Charles F. Hess
Superintendent

711 Fassett Road
Elmira, NY 14905
607-734-9847

March 24, 1987

To: Elaine White, Peter Bean, Fred Turner

From Charles F. Hess

Colleagues,

I simply want to summarize what I believe were the resolves agreed upon in our meeting of yesterday, March 23. It was a good meeting in which I believe we touched some crucial matters. Here is where I perceive we came out:

1. We agreed upon a time line which has as its effective date for merger, July 1, 1987.
2. Both pastors of Owens Mills and Chemung will post notices of a charge (actually, I believe "church conference" is a bit better for this case..it invites more people to participate) to be held on April 16, 1987 at 7:00 P.M. in the Chemung church building. Each church would need to vote on the following:

Owens Mills - vote on sale of property, and on the merger.

Chemung - vote only on the merger resolution.

My suggestion is that each church create the necessary announcement to convey this action needed in church bulletins on April 5 and 12 which would satisfy the requirements of The Discipline.

3. On April 7th, each pastor and two lay persons would meet with me here at the district office at 7:00 P.M. to consider the "terms and conditions" of the merger resolution to be voted on at the April 16th conference.

4. After the voting on the resolutions on the evening of

April 16, then we would join together in a service of holy communion and this would commence about 7:30 P.M. and could help celebrate the future. Elaine, Peter and I would share in parts of that service. Elaine and Peter will determine and prepare the details of the communion service, and I will provide a brief meditation.

5. After the meeting of April 16, and leading up to the effective date of July 1 for merger, Elaine and Peter will be working on a series of occasions, worship and otherwise, to provide a "getting to know you" atmosphere through which the transition can be made most smoothly.
6. The Rev. Fred Turner is our legal counsel in this process and has agreed to prepare legal documents needed to enact the property sale and related matters.

I really appreciate the attitude of both Elaine and Peter as we move toward this significant event in the lives of the congregations. Our continued Christ-like spirit in all this will carry us well into a new era of high purpose for God's Kingdom.

Please let me know if I seem to have misinterpreted our plan of action.

Faithfully,

Charles F. Hess
Charles F. Hess

Elaine - before the April 7 meeting, you might want to check with your folks about any "terms or conditions" they would see as helpful to the process.

OWEN MILLS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Sale of Property

Schedule of Procedure

- 3/5/81
1. ^{internal meeting} Conference with Rev. Peter Bean and Members of the Owen Mills Church.
 2. Setting of date and time for Special Charge Conference of the Owen Mills Church
- Written Notices of meeting 2 weeks notice
 3. Preparation of Resolution for Charge Conference
Preparation of Deeds of transfer
 4. Execution of Written Consents
- by District Superintendent
- by Pastor
 5. Holding of the Special Charge Conference
- Certified Minutes of said Conference
 6. Petition to the Supreme Court of New York State
- Order by same
 7. Duly called meeting of Board of Trustees of Owen Mills Church - Signing of the Deeds
 8. Filing of the necessary Papers relating to Sale
Recording of Deeds

Discipline of The United Methodist Church, 184,
Sec. 2537, 2543.
Religious Corporation Law, State of New York, Sec. 12,
2 B.
New York Jurisprudence, Religious Societies, ref.

PROCEDURE FOR MERGER, Discipline, Sec. 2544, is a separate procedure. This may be done following the sale of the properties or concurrent with sale procedure.

Oyens Mills
vote:

Sale of properties
merger

Chemung
vote

merger effective July 1, 87

April 16, 1987 - Chemung - Owens Mills Churches - Agenda

7:00 P.M.

Charge and Church Conferences

A. Owens Mills - Property sale

B. Owens Mills - Merger Resolution

C. Chemung - Merger Resolution

7:30 P.M. - We celebrate Holy Communion and our relationship
- Service by the Rev. Elaine White, the Rev. Peter Bean
and the Rev. Charles F. Hess

OWEN MILLS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Special Charge Conference

WE, MEMBERS OF THE CHARGE CONFERENCE OF THE OWEN MILLS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, unincorporated, meeting in special session on April 16, 1987, at Chemung United Methodist Church, give our consent to the sale of land owned by the Trustees of said Church, described in a Warranty Deed made March 31, 1899 and recorded in Chemung County Clerk's Office on October 2, 1899, Book No. 119 of Deeds, page 623.

The original grantor of said Deed was Lewis B. Grace, of the Town of Chemung and County of Chemung. The grantees of said Deed are the named Trustees of the Church at that time "and their successors in office."

We authorize the sale of said land by the present Trustees, individually and collectively, to Arthur W. and Madge K. Grace, of R. D. 1, Chemung, New York, for the payment of One Dollar (\$1.00) and other sufficient consideration.

Further, we authorize the Secretary of this session, duly elected by us, to sign this Resolution of Consent for Sale of Real Property.

Secretary of Session

STATE OF NEW YORK }
COUNTY OF CHEMUNG }
TOWN OF CHEMUNG } ss.

On this 16th day of April, 1987, before me personally came _____, to me known, who, being by me duly sworn, did depose and say that _____ lives at _____; that _____ is the elected Secretary of the Special Session of the Charge Conference of Owen Mills United Methodist Church; that at this Session there were _____ persons present, all members of said Church; that the vote on the

OWEN MILLS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Special Charge Conference

WE, MEMBERS OF THE CHARGE CONFERENCE OF THE OWEN MILLS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, unincorporated, meeting in special session on April 16, 1987, at Chemung United Methodist Church, give our consent to the sale of land owned by the Trustees of said Church, described in a Warranty Deed dated November 30, 1927 and recorded in Chemung County Clerk's Office on December 11, 1928, Book No. 248 of Deeds, page 27.

The original grantors of said Deed were Willard Guild and Ella Guild, his wife, both of Town of Chemung and County of Chemung. The grantees of said Deed are "Board of Trustees of the Methodist Episcopal Church of Owen Mills, New York."

We authorize the sale of said land by the present Trustees, individually and collectively, to Anthony J. and Peggy Leib, husband and wife, of 305 Keys Road, Honeye Falls, New York, for the payment of One Dollar (\$1.00) and other sufficient consideration.

Further, we authorize the Secretary of this session, duly elected by us, to sign this Resolution of Consent for Sale of Real Property..

Secretary of Session

STATE OF NEW YORK)
COUNTY OF CHEMUNG) ss.
TOWN OF CHEMUNG)

On this 16th day of April, 1987, before me personally came _____, to me known, who, being by me duly sworn did depose and say that ___ lives at _____; that ___ is the elected Secretary of the Special Session of the Charge Conference of Owen Mills United Methodist Church; that at this Session there were ___ persons

present, all members of said Church; that the vote on the
above Resolution was ___ in favor, ___ opposed, and ___
abstaining.

Notary Public



CHEMUNG VALLEY DISTRICT
of the
North Central New York Conference
THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Charles F. Hess
Superintendent

711 Fassett Road
Elmira, NY 14905
607-734-9847

To: Leadership persons of the Chemung and Owens Mills United
Methodist Churches

From: Charles F. Hess

Dear Friends,

My conversations and various communications with your
congregations have confirmed your mutual willingness to
pursue merger of the congregations due to the Owens Mills
building destruction by fire.

Here are the steps necessary to get this in place as I see
it:

1. The Owens Mills church needs to do the legal transaction
necessary to sell or deed the property where the former
church was located to the Grace family.
2. The old hall across the road from the former church
should either be dismantled, torn down, or arrangements
for such made.
3. Owens Mills members who do not intend to join the merged
church with Chemung should transfer their membership to
other area churches, or wherever they choose, by let us
say, mid-April. All remaining members after that would
then be included in the membership of the merged church.
4. When all the legal matters and membership transfers are
completed, and Owens Mills is ready for merger, then the
fiscal or other assets remaining would be carried into
the life of the merged church. The terms and conditions
of endowments, trusts, and other details of merger could

be explored by a joint committee of the two churches.

5. A Charge or Church Conference then would be held for each church in accordance with paragraph 2541 of the DISCIPLINE in which the terms and conditions, details of merger clearly set forth in a resolution and voted on affirmatively by each congregation would confirm merger.

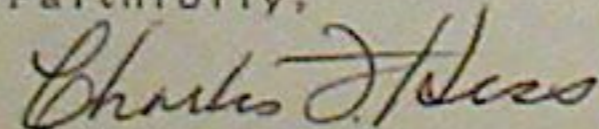
I would like to see us move on these details so that perhaps in May we would have the Charge or Church Conferences. If it takes longer, that is alright, but I think the sooner, the better for all concerned.

At this point, Owens Mills needs to get going on the property issues and membership transfers as soon as possible.

I have spoken with the Rev. Fred Turner, (733-9074) retired United Methodist pastor and practicing Attorney-at-law who resides in Pine City. Fred is willing to guide the Owens Mills Church through their legal needs and generally advise us as we proceed. Funds for legal matters and fees may be used from the Owens Mills assets at this time. I am asking Arthur or Madge Grace and Rev. Peter Bean, Pastor to please contact Rev. Turner in order to get going on this, and I am copying this letter to him.

I shall keep you all informed as we move toward a joyous union of your churches, and the on-going spirit of the Owens Mills congregation in the larger Body of Christ in all this.

Faithfully,



Charles F. Hess

C: Rev. Peter Bean, Arthur and Madge Grace, Rev. Elaine White, Mrs. Shirley Parks, Rev. Fred Turner

April 16, 1987 - Chemung - Owens Mills Churches - Agenda

7:00 P.M.

Charge and Church Conferences

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The Church Conference of the Charming and Ocean Mills UMCs

The Rev Charles Hess opened the meeting with prayer

Charge (of Church) conf. of Ocean Mills called to order
moved & seconded Madge Grace Secretary

Fred ^{Turner} shared information on property sale
(our lawyer)

1a motion

second Joan

for sale of property, ^{to Madge & Art Grace} passed unanimously

2a sale

^{moved}

2nd Lorena

sale of property to Leeb, passed, unanimous

Peter moved & adjourn

Joan second, adjourned

Church Conf. of Ocean Mills

Secretary, Madge Grace

The Church moved to approve the action of the Charge Conference

move 1a - Joan Grace, 2nd Peter, passed

move 2a - Arthur Grace, Peter 2nd, passed

adjourned

Church Conf. of Charming UMC. was called to order by D.S. Charles Hess

Madge Secretary

Nominate - Harry S. 2nd Tony, Elaine Secretary

The resolution for merger was explained by Charles

moved Tony LaRoc, seconded Fred Dickinson

passed unanimously

motion adjourn Harry Shaman 2nd Ray Rivold