Resurrection
A UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Post-Election Frequently Asked Questions

November 4, 2026

Is the church celebrating Adam's victory? We are a bridge-building congregation where Republicans, Democrats, and Independents worship side by side and respect one another's viewpoints. We are certainly proud of our Senior Pastor and his accomplishments, and we cherish the example he set by bravely showing what it looks like to transparently discern a bold calling, pray without ceasing, and to venture down a risky and unknown path in order to become salt and light out in the world. While congregants may hold differing opinions about the political outcome, we know that Adam will lead with integrity and wisdom in the Senate chambers.

How did the church manage during Adam's time away over these five months? Our congregation, pastors, preaching team, elected leaders, and staff stepped up and led the church with skill and grace, even in the face of new external pressures and harsh mischaracterizations. The church maintained separation from campaign activity and operated with consistency and integrity. We didn't hit pause, nor were we distracted. Instead, we remained committed to the goals of Vision 2030. We launched new ministries, welcomed new members, relocated our Liberty location, opened Leawood's new chapel, trained 1,300 church leaders at Leadership Institute, and focused on Loving One Another. In-person worship attendance June through October exceeded our three-year average. Mid-week engagement for kids, students, and adults is stronger than prior years. Year-to-date giving is above budget, and expenses are just under budget. By all measurements, the church remains strong and resilient. Additionally, we have grown spiritually in ways that can only happen in the face of adversity and challenge.

Will the church remain separate from Adam's Senate office? Yes. Adam's roles as pastor and senator will be distinct. The church will not be responsible for his Senate votes or positions; political questions and opinions must be directed to his Senate office. At the church, the Staff-Parish Relations Committee, the main administrative liaison between the congregation and pastor, will continue to assess his pastoral effectiveness at the church, including the maintenance of appropriate boundaries. Through the church's preaching and programs, we will continue our longstanding practice of engaging in justice and public-interest issues, which is part of our calling as United Methodist Christians.

What is Adam's schedule for the remainder of 2026?

- **This Weekend:** We will hear a brief update from Adam during worship services at all locations.
- **Early Next Week:** Adam attends Senate orientation in Washington, D.C.
- **Mid-November:** Adam and LaVon unplug for a pre-planned two-week personal vacation.
- **November 29**: Adam returns to the pulpit to preach the first Sunday of Advent.
- **December:** Adam continues preaching during Advent, including all Candlelight Christmas Eve services.

When will Adam officially become a Senator? The swearing-in ceremony will take place in Washington, D.C., on Sunday, January 3 at noon, unless rescheduled by Congress.

What is the Senate calendar in 2027? The Senate's 2027 schedule has not been published. The Senate averages approximately 165 days in session, with official work primarily conducted Tuesday through Thursday, with Monday and Friday as travel days. The Senate is typically out of session 15-20 weeks annually, allowing flexibility for in-state work and other commitments. We anticipate Adam will be available for worship services most weekends, and he will preach at Resurrection when his schedule allows.

Will our relationship with Pastor Adam change when he is sworn in? When Pastor Adam leads at church, he does so as our Senior Pastor, not as Senator. Likewise, when we engage him at church, we do so as congregants, not as constituents. Likewise, Adam's pastoral office will be separate and independent from his senatorial office. Church matters will be handled by the church; political matters will be directed to his Senate office.

What will be Adam's employment status at the church? Adam will continue serving as our Senior Pastor, though his status will shift from full-time to quarter-time. The church will hold a Church Conference, during which members will vote to officially reset his compensation to an amount not to exceed the Senatorial limits for outside earned income, currently $33,855 annually. Budget resources that would otherwise be spent on Senior Pastor compensation will be available to expand the church's leadership and preaching teams.

What will Adam's key responsibilities be at the church? As Senior Pastor, Adam will continue to be the church's foremost leader, and he will continue to cast vision and set overall direction. He will preach an estimated 12-18 weekends per year, including Christmas and Easter. He will also set vision for the executive team, weigh in on important matters, and mentor our pastors and leaders. The church will continue to demonstrate its ability to operate under the day-to-day leadership of our executive staff, with oversight from our governing bodies.

What is the Succession Committee? In 2021, the church established a Succession Planning Committee to oversee all aspects of a smooth transition upon Pastor Adam's eventual retirement. This committee membership consists of-trusted congregants, including leaders with deep experience in succession planning. Their work is being done in concert with the Bishop of the Great Plains Annual Conference, who is ultimately responsible for the appointment of our pastors.

Has the timeline shifted for Pastor Adam's retirement from Resurrection? That transition is anticipated to occur in the fall of 2030, as previously announced. Any changes to this timeline would be established under the Bishop's guidance, with consideration of the church's needs and the denomination's appointment process. The committee is scheduling open house meetings at each of our nine locations in the first half of 2027. These interactive sessions will offer additional information about the process, answer questions you may have, and gather your input on qualities, capabilities and responsibilities that matter most for the church's next season of ministry. Once our next Senior Pastor is identified, the Succession Committee anticipates an overlap period during which the incoming Senior Pastor will co-lead alongside Pastor Adam. At the conclusion of that overlap, Pastor Adam will shift to an emeritus role, and the church will celebrate his official retirement.

Will the church have increased physical security? Yes. In 2026, the church coordinated with federal and local resources to enhance and harden the congregation's security, and this will continue. Specific security details are not publicly shared, but in 2027 the church will increase church-wide security staffing and maintain enhanced uniformed law enforcement officer presence where needed.

How can I be supportive? Pray, remain active in worship, and be faithful in stewardship. Offer a positive perspective for those who were impacted by distorted campaign rhetoric. And, more importantly, share with your neighbors and friends how much this church means to you.