



West Virginia E-Filing Notice

CC-28-2024-C-272

Judge: Ryan Flanigan

To: Jonathan James Bailie
jbailie@nccll.org

NOTICE OF FILING

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF MERCER COUNTY, WEST VIRGINIA
Trustees of Madison United Methodist Church, Trustee v. Trustees of the West Virginia Conference
of the United Methodist Church, Trustee
CC-28-2024-C-272

The following order - case was FILED on 1/21/2026 1:59:21 PM

Notice Date: 1/21/2026 1:59:21 PM

Julie Ball
CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT
Mercer County
1501 W. Main Street, Suite 111
PRINCETON, WV 24740

(304) 487-8371
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In the Circuit Court of Mercer County, West Virginia

**Trustees of Madison United
Methodist Church, Trustee,
Trustees of Bellemead United
Methodist Church, Trustee,
Trustees of Irons Chapel United
Methodist Church, Trustee,
Trustees of Oakvale United Methodist
Church, Trustee,
Trustees of Horner United Methodist
Church, Trustee ET AL,
Plaintiffs,**

v.

Case No. CC-28-2024-C-272
Judge Ryan Flanigan

**Scott Ferguson,
Chip Bennett,
Trustees of the West Virginia
Conference of the United Methodist
Church, Trustee,
Bishop Debra Wallace Padgett,
Bishop Sandra Steiner Ball ET AL,
Defendants**

ORDER

The above action was filed in the Mercer County Circuit Clerk's Office and assigned to this Court. And it appearing to the Court that the undersigned Judge has a conflict in presiding over this matter, therefore, it is hereby **ORDERED** that this case be transferred to the Honorable Mark E. Wills, for all further proceedings.

The Clerk of this Court is directed to forward a copy of this Order to the Honorable Mark E. Wills and all parties of this action. The Clerk is hereby directed to transfer this case from Judge Flanigan's docket to Judge Wills' docket.

It is also **ORDERED** that the hearing scheduled for Friday, January 23rd, 2026, at 2:00 p.m. before the Honorable Ryan J. Flanigan, will now be heard on Friday, January 23rd, 2026, at 2:00 p.m. before the Honorable Mark E. Wills.

/s/ Ryan J. Flanigan

Circuit Court Judge
13th Judicial Circuit

Note: The electronic signature on this order can be verified using the reference code that appears in the upper-left corner of the first page. Visit www.courtsv.gov/e-file/ for more details.