

Context on the Susquehanna Disaffiliation Vote – May 17

I am/was a member of the Susquehanna Conference and a pastor of a church that has disaffiliated. I saw that you had an update on what occurred yesterday, but it wasn't quite correct.

Here are the bullet points:

- 141 churches were to be voted upon
- The Bishops decided that we would vote on them by district
- They also would allow individual churches to be separated out by request (and just a request, not a motion nor were the reasons provided or questioned)
- They did not count the votes, but looking around the room EVERY vote was approved by 90%+
 - There were between 7 and 10 people who voted against on every vote, with a few more joining in depending upon the individual church
- 5 churches were separated out at 2 different times (both by the same person)
 - 1 church from the Harrisburg District
 - 4 churches from the York District
 - When the person came to the mic and requested these, there was a collective groan let out by the body
 - No one came to the mic to explain why they were taken out nor to try to convince others to vote them down
 - There was a reason given to the 4 churches from York - that the amount of people voting to stay were between 20 and 50%
 - There were no churches, obviously, with only a 50% vote. The person making the claim must have misspoke but they also didn't correct themselves
 - Each and every church was approved by the same overwhelming majorities as the others (I'm again putting it at 90%+)
- In the end all 141 churches were approved by nearly the entire body