For Release On: November 5, 2020

The following is issued on behalf of Karen Hanrahan, President and CEO of GLIDE and Bishop Minerva G. Carcaño, California-Nevada Conference, The United Methodist Church

The California-Nevada Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church and GLIDE Joint Statement on Reaching Successful Agreement

The California-Nevada Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church (CNAC) and Board of Trustees of the Glide Foundation (GLIDE) have reached an agreement that provides for each entity to pursue different aspects of Lizzie Glide’s Trust as wholly separate and autonomous organizations.

San Francisco philanthropist Lizzie Glide established the Trust in 1929 in memory of her late husband, J.H. Glide, to advance Christian Protestant religion, education and charity in San Francisco. To fulfill her wishes, she installed GLIDE as trustee of property located at 330 Ellis Street, which she wanted used to benefit all the people of San Francisco, and to support the creation of an evangelistic training center for preaching and teaching in conformity with the doctrines of the Methodist Church.

Over time, as San Francisco changed, so too did the relationship between GLIDE and CNAC, along with their respective understanding of their roles on how best to bring Lizzie Glide’s wishes to life. GLIDE and CNAC entered into discussions in 2018 to determine a new path forward. The agreement reached embodies their efforts to realize the goals of the Trust in the 21st Century and beyond.

Pursuant to the parties’ agreement, GLIDE has filed paperwork with the probate court requesting approval for modifications to the Trust which will further Lizzie Glide’s desires, while also providing both GLIDE and CNAC with full financial and legal
GLIDE will transfer Trustee responsibility to CNAC for the Trust and will also transfer responsibility for a restricted fund that was established last century in large part to advance Methodist teachings. Combined, these accounts now contain $4.5 million in invested restricted funds that grew out of Lizzie Glide’s original contributions. The Trust will be renamed the “J.H. Glide United Methodist Trust” and used to carry out the mission of The United Methodist Church—making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world, sending persons into the world to live lovingly and justly as servants of Christ healing the sick, feeding the hungry, caring for the stranger and freeing the oppressed. In addition, CNAC, if it chooses to do so, may incorporate a church in San Francisco under the name “J.H. Glide Memorial United Methodist Church” to advance United Methodist teachings.

In recognition of the long-term and unique relationship between GLIDE and The United Methodist Church, GLIDE will also provide $1.5 million to CNAC, drawing from a separate account for investment returns. No donor funds given to GLIDE will be used for any payment under this agreement.

The agreement further provides that GLIDE will retain title to the facility at 330 Ellis Street so it may be used, as it has been for decades, to benefit all San Franciscans through GLIDE’s expansive, transformative programs and community of unconditional love, hope and inclusion. GLIDE will also maintain its church and spiritual community at 330 Ellis Street, welcome to all people and unaffiliated with The United Methodist Church.

Both CNAC and GLIDE are hopeful for a timely and successful approval by the Court followed by a new chapter in fulfilling Lizzie Glide’s wishes for future generations.