



Information Update

First United Methodist Church of Gilbert

November 10, 2019



Campus Renovations

Building on the past, believing in the future

- Nursery
- Preschool Office
- Choir Space
- Senior High Youth Room
- First Floor Meeting Spaces
- IT Upgrades
- Parking Lot
- Landscaping
- Cooper Road Sign





What is our vision at First UMC of Gilbert?



“I ask not only on behalf of these, but also on behalf of those who will believe in me through their word, that they may all be one. As you, Father, are in me and I am in you, may they also be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me. The glory that you have given me I have given them, so that they may be one, as we are one.

– John 17:20-22



What is the traditional plan as it was passed?



- Expanded definition of 'self-avowed practicing homosexual'
- Bishop prohibitions
- Mandated penalties
- Boards of ordained ministries prohibitions
- Mandates changed in complaints
- Appeals changes



Four Commitments of UMCNNext



1. We long to be passionate followers of Jesus Christ, committed to a Wesleyan vision of Christianity, anchored in scripture and informed by tradition, experience and reason as we live a life of personal piety and social holiness.

2. We commit to resist evil, injustice and oppression in all forms and toward all people and build a church which affirms the full participation of all ages, nations, races, classes, cultures, gender identities, sexual orientations, and abilities.

3. We reject the Traditional Plan approved at General Conference 2019 as inconsistent with the gospel of Jesus Christ and will resist its implementation.

4. We will work to eliminate discriminatory language and the restrictions and penalties in the Discipline regarding LGBTQ+ persons. We affirm the sacred worth of LGBTQ+ persons, celebrate their gifts, and commit to being in ministry together.



Desert Southwest Conference Creative Dialogue Notes



How is our Annual Conference responding to the Traditional Plan?



General Conference 2020



- May 5-15 in Minneapolis:
 - gc2020welcome.org
 - Multiple plans have been submitted
- dscumc.org/way-forward/resources
- westernjurisdictionumc.org
- umnews.org



Additional Resources



- Unity of the Church and Human Sexuality: Toward a Faithful United Methodist Witness (GBHEM)
- United Methodists Divided: Understanding Our Difference Over Homosexuality (Dale McConkey)
- Holy Love (Steve Harper)
- How to Talk About the Bible and LGBTQ Inclusion (Matthew Vines)
- Homosexuality and Christian Faith: Questions of Conscience for the Churches (Walter Wink)
- The Trevor Project (<https://www.thetrevorproject.org/>)



What is our vision at First UMC of Gilbert?



“By the power of Christ’s redeeming and sanctifying love, we commit ourselves to grow in love and understanding until all the walls that divide us are finally cast down.”



What is our vision at First UMC of Gilbert?



The vision of First UMC of Gilbert is to be...

...

That aspires to...

...



Questions

