

“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

Information Update
First United Methodist Church of Gilbert
November 10, 2019

Traditional Plan Information

- Petition 90032 — expands the definition of "self-avowed practicing homosexual" to include those “living in a same-sex marriage, domestic partnership or civil union, or is a person who publicly states she or he is a practicing homosexual.”
 - Petition 90036 — prohibits bishops from consecrating, commissioning or ordaining self-avowed homosexuals. (The text does not include the word “practicing.”)
 - Petition 90042 — mandates penalties for clergy convicted of performing same-sex wedding ceremonies. Those penalties are a one-year suspension without pay for the first offense and termination of conference membership and church credentials for a second offense.
 - Petition 90043 — prohibits conference boards of ordained ministry from approving candidates not meeting ordination standards regarding sexuality.
 - Petition 90044 — allows complaint dismissal only if it has no basis in law or fact and mandates information shared with the complainant during the complaint process.
 - Petition 90045 (excluding the second sentence) — expands just resolution requirements to include a statement of harms involved and how the resolution addresses them.
Note: A sentence mandating that each just resolution include a commitment by the respondent not to repeat the violation was ruled unconstitutional and is therefore null and void.
 - Petition 90046 — requires the complainant to be a party in the just resolution process.
 - Petition 90047 — allows the church to appeal errors of law from trial court findings to the Judicial Council.
- * Goes into affect January 1, 2020 in the United States and January 1, 2021 in the Central Conferences



Building on the past, believing in the future



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Four Commitments of UMCNNext

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



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What is our vision at First United Methodist Church of Gilbert?

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

...

That aspires to...

...

Additional Resources

- dscumc.org/way-forward/resources
- westernjurisdictionumc.org
- umnews.org
- **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/>)**

“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.”



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