

Direct From Dave —

August 16, 2018



Human Sexuality and the United Methodist Church

As many of you know, the United Methodist Church will have a special General Conference in February of 2019 to make decisions concerning some issues related to LGBTQ and United Methodist policy and practice. This General Conference could have other ramifications for the United Methodist Church as well.

The Commission on a Way Forward was proposed by the Council of Bishops and approved to do a complete examination and possible revision of every paragraph of the Book of Discipline concerning human sexuality. They will explore options that help maintain and strengthen the unity of the church.

How can we have unity in the midst of these different and difficult opinions about the various issues surrounding human sexuality?

Our Florida Conference has provided a training to be used to help us, as a local church, explore and get a better understanding and empathy when we disagree with another's opinion---concerning the LGBTQ issues or other issues.

To facilitate discussions and understanding about the differing perspectives regarding human sexuality, the Conference has provided learning sessions called Point of View (POV). It is designed to equip participants to grow in empathy, have a broader understanding of different points of view and to create generative dialogue around challenging conversations.

"POV gatherings give us the space as United Methodists in Florida to develop empathy and trust in conversations about human sexuality," Bishop Ken Carter said. "We are trying to create an alternative to the divisive spirit in our culture."

We will be holding the sessions from **6:30-8:30 p.m. on THURSDAY, AUGUST 30, SEPTEMBER 6, and SEPTEMBER 13**. We will meet in Room 202-203. We will be limited to 50 persons (we may repeat these sessions at a later date). This training is a 6-hour experience and it is important that if you make the commitment to come, you are able to make all three 2-hour sessions. Please let Karen Martin, Administrative Assistant, kmartin@phumc.net know if you are planning to come to these 3 sessions. (Please let us know if nursery/child care is needed.) The first 50 responses Karen receives will be the ones in the class.

Rev. Sidney Tompkins will be leading and assisting us in these presentations.

I recommend all to click the following link to hear more about this experience. The video is only 2 minutes. My friend and colleague Rev. Jorge Acevedo, who was on *The Commission on Way Forward*, shares in this video clip some important information.

<https://public.3.basecamp.com/p/9Xh871BUVJVTBkLvg92obztV>

Our vision is to Love God, Love All!

With the Joy of Christ,

Pastor Dave

**CHILDREN, STUDENT and
BOARD of EDUCATION
STAFF RECOGNITION SUNDAY**

This Sunday at all three services we will be praying for those that impact the next generation. **WE ARE ONE!**



Prayer Time on Wednesday mornings

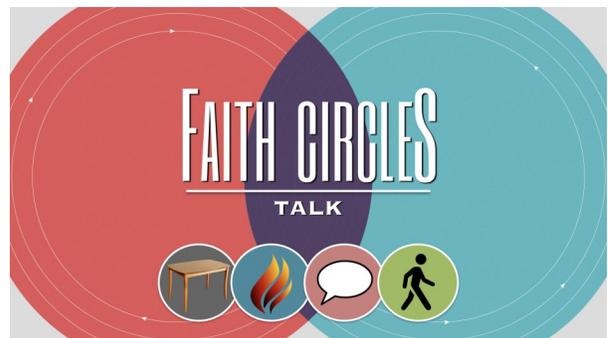
I would like to invite you to grow in your prayer life and enter into prayer as the Body of Christ. We are holding weekly prayer time in the chapel for the purpose of coming together in one accord to pray for our church, our community, our nation, and our world. There will be a time of devotion, corporate prayer, and silent prayer. Please join us every Wednesday morning at 7:30 a.m. in the chapel. For more information, please contact Rev. Cathy in the church office, 727-785-7487 or email chart@phumc.net.

SUNDAY SERMON

August 19, 2018
8:05, 9:30, 11:05 a.m.

Scripture: Psalm 145:1-13

*One generation will tell the faith
to the next generation.*



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