


Pulse



Confessing Jesus Christ as Son, Savior and Lord!

Dr. Billy Graham:

“The Bible is the constitution of Christianity...

True Christianity finds all of its doctrines in the Bible; true Christianity does not deny any part of the Bible; true Christianity does not add anything to the Bible. For many centuries the Bible has been the most available book on the earth. It has no hidden purpose. It cannot be destroyed.”

2019 ANNUAL CONFERENCES

The United States Annual Conferences have concluded having elected their lay and clergy delegates for General Conference 2020. As you probably know, clergy vote for and elect clergy while laity vote for and elect laity. With an increased number of progressive clergy elected while laity numbers remained strongly evangelical, there appears to be a growing disconnect between the leaders of the church and those they are entrusted to lead. The increase in progressives elected, however, has emboldened some who believe they now have the numbers needed to defeat the Traditional Plan or any other orthodox plan presented at GC 2020. The Confessing Movement and other renewal groups are confident that traditionalists still hold the majority. In addition, Africa (more traditional) is gaining an additional 18 votes and the US is losing 22 votes. We are also hopeful that 30+ African delegates who did not receive visas in 2019 will receive them for 2020 or be replaced with new delegates who will be able to obtain visas. We believe the 2020 GC will once again vote to uphold Scripture regarding homosexual practice and marriage as between one man and one woman.

Be assured that The Confessing Movement will continue to stand strong on the authority of Scripture as well as the church's position on human sexuality as understood for over 2,000 years.

Please consider giving through our website, by phone or by mail.
Your continued support is vital to our success.

THANK YOU!



July 2019

What We Are Doing Now ...

The Confessing Movement and other renewal groups will go to GC 2020 prepared to defend and amend the traditional plan, adding more enforcement provisions. We are involved in the preparation of petitions that are being written and must be filed by the middle of September to be considered. We are also engaged in negotiations with traditionalist, centrist, and progressive leaders to formulate a way forward we can all support at GC 2020 in an effort to avoid another St. Louis. Most of the dialogue centers around separation. The issue is *how* to separate. Several plans seem to be moving in a positive way. Some include ways to define separate expressions of United Methodism, allowing each to maintain the UMC name and logo by adding one of two descriptive modifiers to the name. There are also discussions around the idea of dissolving the existing UMC and transitioning its members to one of two or three self-governing churches while maintain a connection through shared ministries. A “gracious exit” for those who wish to leave the denomination continues to be under consideration. These proposals are still a work in progress. When more information is available to be shared the Confessing Movement will share it with you.

The conflict within the church has not ended but is, in fact, increasing with threats of more open and blatant disobedience. There is widespread agreement that we must find another way. Unfortunately, some centrists and progressives with an over confident attitude about votes in 2020 are considering a stay and resist posture. This will only cause continued conflict in the church.

It is time for us to put serving Christ above the conflict within the United Methodist Church!

A Breakdown of Votes by Annual Conference

862 Delegates to General Conference 2020

US

North Central Jurisdiction: 88

Northeastern Jurisdiction: 84

South Central Jurisdiction: 102

Southeastern Jurisdiction: 182

Western Jurisdiction: 26

Central Conference

Africa: 40

West Africa: 86

Congo: 152

Central and Southern Europe: 14

Northern Europe and Eurasia: 20

Germany: 6

Philippines: 52

Concordat Churches: 10

(864 delegates elected to 2016 and 2019 General Conferences)

The UMC is engaged in a spiritual

battle. The word of God in Holy

Scripture is being challenged.

While the presenting issue is the practice of homosexuality the issue is the authority of Scripture. How we read and interpret the Bible.

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