

# Pulse

*Confessing Jesus Christ as  
Son, Savior and Lord!*



General Conference 2019 in St. Louis, MO is fast approaching. Along with other renewal groups, we have put together a list of reasons The Confessing Movement supports the Traditional Plan and the reasons to oppose the One Church Plan despite its support from a slight majority of bishops. Share this information with other United Methodists and especially your delegates to General Conference 2019. The outcome of this special called General Conference has the potential to either strengthen or tear apart our beloved denomination!

## **Traditional Plan**

- The most faithful to the clear teaching of Scripture, affirming the standards of the Bible and 2,000 years of Christian understanding.
- Strengthens the unity of the church around shared beliefs and practices, rather than settling for a “least common denominator” form of our life together.
- Avoids localizing sexuality debate.
- Would keep the greatest number of members and congregations in the UM Church, minimizing the negative impact on the church’s global mission.
- Makes it possible to continue seamless relationship and cooperation between U.S. and central conference United Methodists.
- Offers a gracious, non-punitive pathway for annual conferences, congregations, bishops, and clergy who cannot, because of conscience, abide by our shared covenant to exit from the denomination, rather than trying to coerce people into remaining part of a covenant they do not support.
- Departing churches would be able to keep their property without financial penalty.
- The plan provides a hopeful end to the conflict once we regain compliance with our covenant, enabling the church to shift its focus outwardly in mission, evangelism, and ministry.
- Will secure our Wesleyan tradition.
- Affirms global church and ensures continued UMC growth.
- Will increase evangelism and making disciples of Jesus Christ.

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**January 2019**

# One Church Plan

- Contradicts the clear teaching of Scripture by affirming same-sex relationships and changing the definition of marriage.
- Would be a departure from 2,000 years of Christian teaching on sexual ethics, as well as the overwhelming view of the worldwide Christian church.
- Will precipitate denomination-wide separation by multiplying the conflict across every annual conference and many local churches.
- The localization of the sexuality debate will divide many congregations.
- Based on a false sense of unity that attempts to paper over our divisions rather than facing them honestly, undermines our connectionalism and takes us down the road toward congregationalism.
- Enthrones unWesleyan ecclesiology and affirms/facilitates unbiblical behavior.
- Would alienate and, ultimately, separate many of our church's non-U.S. members and would make their ministry task much more difficult. This is especially true in the growing African churches where they face cultural, legal, and religious opposition to the practice of homosexuality.
- Would lead to the departure of a significant number of evangelical members, congregations, and clergy, dramatically weakening the church's ministry and missions around the world.
- The loss of members would force many local churches to close.

There will be 864 votes that can be cast at the 2019 Special Called General Conference in St. Louis, Missouri. Here is the breakdown of delegates by jurisdiction:

North Central	92
Northeastern	86
South Central	108
Southeastern	188
Western	30
Africa Central	42
Congo	138
West Africa	80
Europe	40
Philippines	50
Concordat	10

The deliberations will simultaneously be available in English, French, Portuguese and Kiswahili. Please pray for these delegates as they prepare their hearts and minds for what will surely be difficult days of deliberations and voting for all.

## Contact Us

The Confessing Movement  
7995 E 21st Street  
Indianapolis, IN 46219  
(317) 356-9729  
[cm@confessingumc.org](mailto:cm@confessingumc.org)

Visit us on the web:  
[www.confessingumc.org](http://www.confessingumc.org)