

Pulse



Pulse is a new publication from The Confessing Movement designed to keep you informed of the current state of our beloved church. Please continue to pray for renewal - particularly a renewed obedience to Scripture.



The UMC General Conference will meet May 10-20, 2016 in Portland, OR. All policies and theological decisions affecting the future of the UMC will be decided at that time. Executive Director Patricia Miller and Associate Director Riley Case will be in Portland at General Conference on behalf of The Confessing Movement, providing materials for delegates that lay out our position on various legislation as well as encouraging the election of orthodox candidates for Judicial Council and the University Senate. Regular updates will be provided throughout the conference. More details will be provided over the next few months.

Please keep us in your prayers.

Join Dr. Terry Tekyl, The Confessing Movement and other United Methodists in praying the Lord's Prayer at noon each day as an act of unity in preparation for General Conference in May. Please encourage others to do so as well.

The 2016 ADCA is Now Available Online

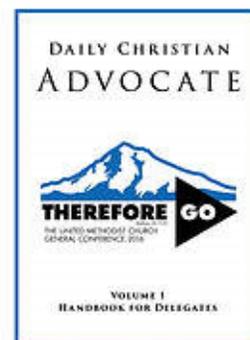
"The Advanced Daily Christian Advocate (ADCA) contains the agenda, rules, delegate listings, petitions, reports from the general agencies/commissions and study committees, information for delegates, and codes of conduct for the General Conference.

The Daily Christian Advocate (DCA) is produced daily during the General Conference session, and contains news and features as well as the verbatim transcript of the conference proceedings and calendar items." (per umc.org)

Within the more than 1,400 pages of the 2016 edition of the ADCA are 1,044 petitions. These petitions can be read in their entirety on the official UMC website:

www.umd.org/who-we-are/gc2016-advance-edition-daily-christian-advocate

You are encouraged to visit the site and read the petitions pending before GC delegates.



February 2016

The Divestment Debate Rages On

The UMC's General Board of Pensions and Health Benefits (GBPHB) will not invest in five Israeli banks that made the "worst of the worst" list compiled by Freedom House for alleged offenses against "political rights and civil liberties." This announcement has made national news as it is the first time a large church denomination has used considerable finances (valued at \$20.9 billion in 2014) to make a statement against perceived social injustice.

There is a disagreement within the denomination regarding this decision. During the 2012 General Conference, legislation was defeated that called for divestment from 3 companies responsible for products used by Israel. Many believe that Israel is a critical ally in the very unstable Middle East and has religious significance for Christianity.

GBPHB posted a statement on their website in response to expressed concerns over the decision which read, in part, "The General Board is not divesting from Israel. We remain invested in approximately 18 Israeli companies that meet our investment criteria."

There are two dangerous proposals before General Conference. "A Way Forward" and "A Third Way" provide a way for the ordination of self avowed practicing homosexuals and same sex marriages within the UMC. These options are being proposed as methods to maintain unity of the church. However, should GC pass either of these plans, it would be very difficult or impossible for evangelical laity and clergy to stay within the UMC



Bishop Scott Jones, the episcopal leader in the Great Plains Annual Conference, swiftly responded to a complaint brought against Rev. Cynthia Meyer, the pastor of Edgerton UMC who recently

announced during a sermon that she is in a relationship with another woman. Rev. Meyer made her announcement as a part of the Reconciling Ministries Network's "It's Time" campaign. Bishop Jones has begun the process of conducting a supervisory response.

Bishop Jones has not shied away from such cases in the past. In a 2014 address to conference clergy Jones said that if 100 pastors preside at same-sex unions "Then there will be 100 suspensions from ministry during the supervisory response followed by 100 trials." He also said that "not to hold a trial when a chargeable offense occurs and a just resolution cannot be achieved is to violate our United Methodist identity."

The current position of the UMC is that all people are of sacred worth but that the practice of homosexuality is inconsistent with Christian teaching. Only the General Conference can change the official position of the church.

Contact Us

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

Visit us on the web:
www.confessingumc.org