

May 10, 2022

FAQs about the General Conference Committee

Q: What is the General Conference Committee (“GC24”)?

A: The GC24 is a work group, formed at the suggestion of the Church Council, to prayerfully collect, study, and provide input on the potential impacts to FUMC of the denominational separation of the Global Methodist Church from the United Methodist Church over the biblical and theological debate regarding LGBTQ+ marriage, ordination, and language in the Book of Discipline.

The GC24 is **not** a decision-making body. Our goal is to discuss and evaluate how the issues will affect our church’s ministries, finances, community, and members, and provide a thoughtful, prayerful roadmap for church leadership and the congregation.

Q: Who is on the GC24?

A: This work group is made up of representatives from the congregation that represent the various views.

Because the directive of the GC24 is to consider all impacts and outcomes of the denominational separation, its membership is a diverse group of individuals representing a variety of ages, backgrounds, experience, and roles within the FUMC community.

Q: What work will the GC24 do?

A: The objective of the GC24 is to think broadly about the impact on FUMC of the denominational separation over the biblical and theological debate regarding LGBTQ+ marriage and ordination. To that end, its tasks include (but may not be limited to):

- Learn and explore what UMC represents as a connectional church, and a short history of how this issue has progressed in the UMC;
- Determine credible sources of information that address the issues from a variety of perspectives, in order to timely share relevant information with the pastors and Church Council;
- Identify the current/proposed rules of separation under the Book of Discipline as it is now as well as under the proposed Protocol, and develop straightforward explanations of those rules for the FUMC congregation;
- Ascertain the FUMC functions and missions that may be affected by the denominational separation and what, if any, preparations can be made to address these effects;
- Review the impact the denominational separation may have on the property, finances and other resources of FUMC;

May 10, 2022

- Discuss how information should be communicated with the congregation about the GC24's work and advise the pastors and Church Council accordingly (and coordinate with the communications team to disseminate relevant information);
- Develop a mechanism(s) for discussing and evaluating the thoughts and feelings of the congregation on the denominational separation.