

# From the Pastor

May 2, 2017

The Council of Bishops of the United Methodist Church has called a Special Session of the General Conference to be held February 23-26 in St. Louis, Missouri.



The purpose of the Special Session of the General Conference will be “limited to receiving and acting on a report from the Council of Bishops based on the recommendations of the Commission on a Way Forward.” (Bishop Ough, Council of Bishops President)

The 32-member Commission on A Way Forward was appointed by the Council of Bishops during our regular General Conference held in Portland, Oregon last summer. The Commission’s task includes examining paragraphs in The Book of Discipline concerning human sexuality and exploring options to strengthen the unity of the church.

The delegates from the 2016 General Conference will serve as the delegates of the Special Session of the General Conference. Rev. Jackson Henry, whose secondary appointment is here at St. Mark’s, is one of the clergy delegates.

Please join me and the entire church in praying for the Commission on a Way Forward and the Special Session of General Conference as we address this crucial issue in the life of the church.

Blessings,

Craig