



Three Plans – Key Issues

One Church	Traditional	Connectional Conference
Eliminates the Book of Discipline language - “The United Methodist Church does not condone the practice of homosexuality and considers this practice incompatible with Christian teaching.”	Affirms current language in the Book of Discipline with bans.	Replaces the five U.S. jurisdictions with three connectional conferences that are “values-based.”
Deletes ban against “self-avowed and practicing” gay clergy.	Enforces bans swiftly and strictly – against gay clergy & same sex marriages.	Each connectional conference would create its own Book of Discipline.
Each annual conference board of ordained ministry and clergy session may determine standards for ordination or certification, including standards related to human sexuality. The plan also allows ordained clergy to perform same-sex marriages but does not require them to do so.	Churches and annual conferences that disagree with strict enforcement may set up self-governing or “autonomous, affiliated or concordant” churches or conferences.	Individual annual conferences that disagree with the decision of their central conference have the option of voting to join a different connectional conference.
Churches can vote on whether to hold same-sex marriages in their buildings. Clergy are also free to transfer.		

Source: [“Plans Prayerfully Pondered by United Methodists,”](#) by Kathy L. Gilbert, July 30, 2018 | UMNS