

## CRC Meeting 9/23/18

- I. Check-in/De-brief
  - A. Too fast for some, too slow for others: seems like we haven't beyond the same questions people had a year ago about why we have to go through this still.
    1. Concern about rainbow flag and whether allowing one symbol means we have to allow other symbols (Nazi flag, US flag, BLM, etc)
  - B. Table Talks
    1. Well-received in both services
    2. People loved it, showed up for it.
    3. Positive dynamic
    4. Candid and relaxed atmosphere
    5. Visitors participated and came back this week
    6. Respect was offered and felt
    7. We should do it again, with different- more intense- deeper questions
  - C. Sense that committee is forcing something has dissipated and allowed for more voices to be heard.
  - D. Brad's story
    1. Set up for the talks, because people were safe to share after hearing Brad.
    2. Positive feedback on being vulnerable
    3. Has led to conversations: Now that I know about your story, let me tell you about mine.
    4. Brad's family was happy that they were included
- II. Events coming up
  - A. Info Evening 10/22
    1. Planning team Jean, Joe, Christian
    2. Use materials that Joe has gathered from the conference website
  - B. Panel
    1. Planning Team Kristin, Brad, Richard
    2. Include churches that have decided yes (recently and long time ago) and no
    3. Include a church that has split over the decision
    4. For those who decided no, ask if they've moved to inclusion in some other way
    5. Ask the congregation to generate questions ahead of time
- III. Questions about The Way Forward/General Conference 19
  - A. Episcopalians on probation from Anglican communion over this issue. Congregations in the US who disagree with the US decisions have become part of the diocese of Nigeria.
  - B. Split may be necessary in the UMC, but will take time.
  - C. Hope is still possible for church unity. Keep faith as the center.
  - D. Expectations
    1. Daily UM news service publications during GC
    2. Letter from Bishop with invitation will follow GC
- IV. December service project
  - A. Maybe start with Jennifer Ting and the Orion Center for homeless youth
  - B. Could involve our youth, who are having a hard time imagining why we are still talking about it and not doing something.

- C. Best if we can figure out a way to be in ministry with those affected rather than rescuing or saving
  - 1. Could help to put names and faces and stories for those who don't know if they've ever met someone who is not heterosexual, cis-gender.
  - 2. Can we have a party here at church? What does Christmas Day look like for a gay kid who has been thrown out?
- D. Jean Harris will ask Jean Rummel if she might be willing to work with Jennifer to see what's possible.