

## **Commission On A Way Forward**

### **Recommended Resources**

#### **What does the Bible say about the LGBTQ issue?**

Bible passages most often referenced in books, articles, etc include the following:

Genesis 1-2; 19:1-29 \*  
 Leviticus 18:2 \*; 20:13 \*  
 Matthew 19:4-6  
 John 15:1-17; 17:20-23  
 Romans 1:18-32 \*  
 1 Corinthians 6:9-11 \*; 12:12-13  
 1 Timothy 1:8-11 \*  
 Acts 15:28-29 \*  
 Galatians 3:25-29; 5:13-26; 5:25-6:2  
 Colossians 3:12-17

\* Identifies most frequently discussed in articles and books

Two methodologies used when studying and understanding the Bible are explained below. These methods lead to an awareness of both the literary context of a passage, as well as the historical situation out of which it emerges, and the primary audience to whom it is addressed.

- Contextual interpretation of a particular passage – a process that attempts to determine the meaning of a small unit of the biblical text – a word, a phrase, a sentence, or a brief paragraph – in light of its location in a part of the book, and then in the book itself. This focus on context attempts to avoid proof texting – and interpretation that takes a small unit out of its surrounding verses and chapters.
- The evaluation of those passages – a process of determining whether the meaning of a passage is local and temporal, or universal and timeless. Included in this process is determining if a passage is cultural or transcultural.

#### **Where can I find information (internet sources, articles of interest, etc) to read and stay current with UMC LGBTQ activities?**

“The people of the United Methodist Church”, [www.umc.org](http://www.umc.org)

“Good News”, <https://goodnewsmag.org>

“Life Watch”, <https://www.lifewatch.org>

“Uniting Methodists”, <http://unitingmethodists.com>

“Wesley Covenant Assoc.” <https://wesleyancovenant.org>

“Western North Carolina Conference”, <https://www.wnccumc.org>

“Methodist Federation for Social Action”, <http://mfsaweb.org>

“The Confessing Movement”, <https://www.confessingumc.org>

**What resources (books, articles, links, etc) are available for in-depth reading and understanding?**

'Anatomy of Peace", by Arbinger Institue

"The Moral Vision of the New Testament", by Richard B Hays, Chapter 16

"Let's make a Deal, #UMC Style", by David F. Watson

"What Does the Bible Really Teach About Homosexuality?" by Kevin DeYoung

"Is It Time – Helping Laity and Clergy Discuss Homosexuality One Question at a time" by Adolf Hansen

"Unafraid and Unashamed – Facing the Future of United Methodism" by Wil Cantrell

"Council of Bishops – President Address" by Bishop Bruce R. Ough, President of the Council of Bishops, November 5, 12017

"A Way Forward? The End of the United Methodist Church? New Birth: New Possibilities?"  
By Andy Langford, October 2017

"Finding A Way Forward – Resources for Witness, Contextual Leadership and Unity", by Commission on a Way Forward Council of Bishops

<http://www.umc.org/news-and-media/gc2016-tackling-44-year-stance-on-homosexuality>

[https://www.dropbox.com/sh/nd99l78zc50nf1t/AACO\\_PI\\_Uo7a3Bwl73s2QULma?dl=0&preview=CO WF+July+Report+-+Image+on+Powerpoint.pptx](https://www.dropbox.com/sh/nd99l78zc50nf1t/AACO_PI_Uo7a3Bwl73s2QULma?dl=0&preview=CO+WF+July+Report+-+Image+on+Powerpoint.pptx)

[http://s3.amazonaws.com/Website\\_UMCGiving/resource-files/UMCHandbook-WEB-BW.pdf](http://s3.amazonaws.com/Website_UMCGiving/resource-files/UMCHandbook-WEB-BW.pdf)

<https://www.facebook.com/umcforward/videos/1960549247560792>

<https://www.facebook.com/umcforward/videos/1987544601527923>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9t1cwBJxS2c>

<https://www.gbhem.org/article/new-study-guide-available-help-church-discuss-human-sexuality>

<https://www.seedbed.com/what-the-church-needs-to-understand-about-sexual-identity>