



Dear Gary Church Family,

Greetings from the Holy Land.

I write this pastoral letter regarding Human Sexuality and The United Methodist Church while traveling in the land of Jesus' birth. Yesterday, Gary Church members visited the Church of the Nativity, and held meetings with religious leaders and residents to learn of their lives and challenges here. Today we travel from Jerusalem to the Galilee where Jesus lived, taught, and worked mighty deeds to bring new life, abundant life, and eternal life for all people.

As many of you may know, the Judicial Council of The United Methodist Church has ruled on the constitutionality and legality of decisions made at the General Conference Special Session held this February. Below you will find the Pastoral Letter from Bishop Sally Dyck. The letter includes a summary of the decisions regarding the Traditional Plan and a related petition regarding local churches desiring to disaffiliate from The United Methodist Church, as well as information regarding what's next (including important happenings, events, and dates). The letter also includes a link to the decisions.

Gary Church's Task Force will be meeting this month to plan ways that we can be in conversation with one another regarding our way forward as a congregation. In addition, as indicated in the Bishop's letter, I along with our lay members of annual conference will be attending annual conference in a few weeks where we will discuss and vote on legislation that could impact our conference and/or churches.

See the Bishop's letter below with special attention to the highlighted text.

Please continue to be in prayer for one another, for our congregation, our conference, and The United Methodist Church.

Yours in Christ!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Christopher L. Pierson". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Rev. Dr. Chris Pierson