

What's Happening

General Conference 2019

A Special Session of the General Conference of the United Methodist Church is taking place February 23-26. The purpose will be to receive and act on reports and petitions related to the Church's stance on human sexuality.

Uncertain Outcomes

We do not yet know what will be decided at the Special Session, but we know that any decision will have significant implications for our churches and communities.

Moving Forward

After we learn about the outcomes of the Special Session, we will all need to make decisions regarding what happens next. This seminar will provide opportunities to learn accurate information, ask questions, engage in reflection, and think intentionally about options for us and our churches moving forward.

For More Information Contact:

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NOW WHAT?

Discerning Next Steps

Presented by
WPA Reconciling
Ministries

April 5, 2019

Edinboro United Methodist Church
113 High Street
Edinboro, PA 16412

April 6, 2019

St. Paul's United Methodist Church
1965 Ferguson Road
Allison Park, PA 15101

Keynote Speaker



**Jan Lawrence,
Executive
Director of
RMN**

Jan (she/her/hers) is a lay member of the Baltimore-Washington Annual Conference. Her passions are social justice, inclusion of all in God's church, and unity of the church. She recognizes the tension that the fight for inclusion of LGBTQ people has created between those passions. She has been a leader on the LGBTQ Advocacy team at Foundry UMC in Washington D.C. since the 2012 General Conference.

Jan grew up in Rome, Georgia and graduated from Wesleyan College in Macon, GA. She did graduate work at the University of Missouri and is currently studying at Wesley Seminary in Washington D.C. Professionally her background is in Engineering Management and Program Management.

Jan has been active in her church, community, and at Wesleyan College for many years. After a few years she felt called to transition to a career in a non-profit or church operations field, and she began taking classes at Wesley Seminary to prepare for such a move. When the opportunity to join the RMN team came, she did not hesitate, believing that she could combine her passions in one place.

She lives in Washington D.C. with her spouse, Lindi Lewis, and their Welsh Terrier, Higgins.

WHO SHOULD COME?

This seminar is open to all who want to learn about how the outcomes of February's Special Session of the General Conference will affect the future of our Church, and work together to discern next steps.

We recognize that the voices of our lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, intersex, and asexual (LGBTQIA+) siblings are often not honored in these conversations. We hope that LGBTQIA+ persons, family members, spouses, friends, and allies will participate. We invite people who are pleased with the Special Session's outcomes, those who are concerned, those who feel confident moving forward, and those who have more questions than answers.

God has been active in all of our lives and is still speaking to all of us. Our challenge is to find the path forward together as a diverse people who love the United Methodist Church.

Come with an open heart and an open mind. Come not to argue or convince others. Come to be open to the spirit's movement. Let's find a common thread we can all hold onto as we walk together into the future.

Schedule

9:00-9:30	Registration
9:30-9:45	Welcome & Devotions
9:45-10:45	Keynote Address
10:45-11:00	Break
11:00-11:45	Seminar Session 1
11:45-12:30	Lunch
12:45-1:45	Seminar session 2
1:45-2:00	Break
2:00-3:00	Seminar Session 3
3:00-3:30	Closing and Dismissal

Registration

Cost: \$25 until March 22; after March 22 \$30

Register Online:

<https://wmt.suran.com/tool?guid=9b0a6252259a11e995fdc7b7b3a182dd>

Register By Phone: Carla at St. Paul's UMC--412-486-7006

Register By Mail: Send name, email, address, church, lunch needs, and check (made out to St. Paul's UMC) to Carla Porterfield, 1965 Ferguson Road, Allison Park, PA 15101