Living Faithfully

Human Sexuality and The United Methodist Church

A Four-Week Small Group Study

Is It Time

Helping Laity and Clergy Discuss Homosexuality One Question at a Time

Adolf Hansen

Holy Contradictions

Brian K. Milford Editor

What’s Next for the People Called United Methodists

Matt Rawle
Juan Huertas
Katie McKay Simpson

The Marks of Hope

The Fight for Marriage

Church Conflicts and Courtroom Contests

Phillip F. Cramer
William L. Harbison

Our Strangely Warmed Hearts

Coming Out Into God’s Call

Karen P. Oliveto

FAULTLINES

Holy Conversations about Human Sexuality and The United Methodist Church

Rob Renfroe and Walter Fenton

A New Church and a New Seminary

Theological Education Is the Solution

David McAllister-Wilson

Carolyn Moore

THE 19 QUESTIONS TO KINDBLE A WESLEYAN SPIRIT

David N. Field

800.672.1789
Cokesbury.com/Faultlines
Dear Friends:
Abingdon Press is pleased to introduce Faultlines, a suite of new resources to encourage and inform robust conversations about challenging questions being debated by faithful United Methodists.

For group study:
1. Living Faithfully: Human Sexuality and The United Methodist Church is a four-week small group study for adults (available now). Topics for discussion are: Is the practice of homosexuality incompatible with Christian teaching? Is same-gender marriage compatible with Christian teaching? Is ordaining practicing homosexuals compatible with Christian teaching? Where are we now?

2. Adolf Hansen, Is It Time? Helping Laity and Clergy Discuss Homosexuality One Question at a Time. 11/2017. Twelve questions to help people individually and in groups think through various issues concerning homosexuality. Examples include: Is it time to stop using the word homosexuality without defining it? Is it time to stop confusing homosexual attraction with homosexual behavior? Is it time to stop interpreting the Bible as a static rather than a developing understanding of God’s revelation? Is it time to stop calling homosexuality a sin without clarifying what we mean? Is it time to stop fearing persons who have a sexual orientation or gender identity different from our own? Is it time to start expending our full energy on the mission of The United Methodist Church: to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world?

3. Carolyn Moore, The 19 Questions to Kindle a Wesleyan Spirit. 5/2018. Walks readers through Wesley’s nineteen historic questions, which newly ordained clergy still answer today. Covering topics from faith in Christ to spiritual practices, to handling debt, these questions lie at the heart of the covenant that binds clergy together. How we honor commitments to the rules of the Church is of particular urgency for contemporary readers.

4. Rob Renfroe and Walter Fenton, Are We Better Together? An Evangelical Perspective on the United Methodist Divide. 4/2018. Explores moving forward by looking at the topics of theology, authority, covenant, and unity. This book questions the idea that the diverse voices in The UMC are “better together,” and calls readers to consider ways in which separation might be beneficial.

5. Matt Rawle, Juan Huertas, Katie McKay Simpson, The Marks of Hope: Where the Spirit Is Moving. 3/2018. Imagines hopeful models for how the church shows the world ways of coming together amid times of crisis and division. The authors acknowledge significant differences in the church, yet lift up powerful signs of hope for the present and future in how we deal with concerns around gender, technology, justice, mission, story, and more.

6. David N. Field, Our Purpose Is Love: The Wesleyan Way to Be the Church. 5/2018. An engaging group study of essential and unique insights of the Wesleyan movement and rediscovery of an exhilarating and loving vision for living as the church now.

For pastors, leaders, and laity:

8. Phillip Cramer and William L. Harbison, The Fight for Marriage: Church Conflicts and Courtroom Contests. 4/2018. The authors, two UM laypersons, brought the case Tanco v. Haslam in Nashville federal court. The case ultimately went with similar cases in Kentucky, Ohio, and Michigan to the U. S. Supreme Court, resulting in the 2015 landmark court decision permitting same-gender marriage nationwide.


10. David McAllister-Wilson, A New Church and a New Seminary: Theological Education is the Solution. 5/2018. Examines causes of congregational decline and proposes what will likely happen to transform seminaries that forge partnerships with congregational leaders.

We offer this array of books with differing perspectives for your study, reflection, and edification as together we seek to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

Grace and peace,

Brian K. Milford, Publisher, Abingdon Press