



Town Hall, New Song Church

Sunday, June 2, 2024

10:50am - 12:00pm

Presenters: Pastor Chad & Pastor Jeremy

- I. Opening, Prayer, and Orientation Handouts **3 minutes**
- I. Video from UMCommunications: linked [here](#). (File Location on Mac) **10:07 length**
- II. Questions from “wehearyou@newsongumc.org” (**Until 11:50am**)
 - A. I think it would be a good idea for Chad or Jeremy to list out the specific changes made to the Book of Discipline concerning homosexuality.
 - B. Please recap the changes around celibacy requirements made at the General Conference and why this change was needed.
 - C. What, practically speaking, has changed at New Song Church as a result of this year’s General Conference?
 - D. Was social justice a focus for early United Methodists? For example, supporting women’s right to vote, etc. If so, shouldn’t social justice be for everyone, not just the people and lifestyles we are comfortable with?
 - E. What happened in 1972 that led to adding the clauses around human sexuality in the first place?
 - F. If enough of the congregation wants to leave the United Methodist Church, could it happen, and, if so, what would it take?
 - G. Isn’t it a good thing if more people have the option to become clergy? This could ultimately bring more people into the Methodist church and closer to God. It makes the church appear more accepting, which we SHOULD be. Displaying hatefulness around an issue like this reinforces the widespread reputation that Christians are judgemental and hypocrites.
 - H. What is the process for approving a same-gender wedding at New Song UMC?
 - I. What is the process that would occur for a self-identifying LGBTQ clergy being appointed to New Song UMC?
 - J. Will New Song put themselves out there to let the LGBTQ community know that they would be welcomed and accepted?
 - K. How does New Song’s youth ministry handle the situation if a student approaches our leaders about LGBTQ matters?
 - L. Does New Song agree with/support the changing of *The Discipline* to go against what the Bible says.... that “marriage is between a man and a woman?”
 - M. I would like to hear Chad and Jeremy’s personal stance on the changes made.

(Cont’d on back)

- III. Next Steps
 - A. Holy Communion
 - B. Silent Prayer
 - C. Prayers of Reconciliation
- IV. Closing: our work continues (in making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world)
 - A. Blood Drive tomorrow between 11am-4pm
 - B. All are welcome to a “Night of Worship!” this Friday @ 7pm
 - C. Hunger: FeedMore Food Pantry (June 24), Backpack Ministry (Collections and Weekly Packing!), Cornerstone Serve Days (Monthly, on Saturdays)
 - D. Save the Date: “Missions Weekend!” Yard Sale (September 28); Rise Against Hunger (September 29)

Resources Available:

Legislative Recap: Discover Key Outcomes of the Historic 2024 General Conference:

<https://www.resourceumc.org/en/content/general-conference-legislative-recap>

News and Resources from General Conference:

<https://www.resourceumc.org/en/churchwide/general-conference-2020>

The Virginia Annual Conference Resource page:

<https://vaumc.org/gc2024/>

UMC:

<https://umc.org>

UMC News:

<https://www.umnews.org/en/>

New Song, email for Follow-up:

wehearyou@newsongumc.org

