

#CTTalks Begins Series on Human Sexuality

Connectional Table of The United Methodist Church

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CHICAGO: Continuing the conversation around key topics related to General Conference 2016, The Connectional Table begins a new series of #CTTalks. #CTTalks is an online forum, a series of videos and social media conversations around key topics related to General Conference 2016. This month highlights the work done by The Connectional Table and the Council of Bishops over the last quadrennium related to matters of human sexuality.

This month's videos will highlight the process that led to The Connectional Table's decision to propose A Third Way legislation, and to the statement of core values made by the Council of Bishops Task Force on Human Sexuality, Gender and Race. This is a pressing issue for our life together as The United Methodist Church in the 21st century. Interviewees include Kennetha Bigham-Tsai, chair of The Connectional Table Legislative Writing Team and Bishop Rosemarie Wenner, chair of this Council of Bishops Task Force.

"We have tried to focus on what we do as bishops," Wenner said of the COB Task Force. "We live, as the whole church does, with the strong conviction that God's grace is for all... as those who are called to be leaders of the church, to guard the faith, and to work towards unity, and to be shepherds of the whole flock, how can we create space and openness for all people in our denomination so that we can fulfill our call to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world?"

#CTTalks provides a way of engaging audiences with information about General Conference. The #CTTalks conversation is designed to be used by delegates and delegations of annual conferences as they study and discuss issues that will be addressed at General Conference 2016. Weekly video posts include interviews with United Methodist bishops, Connectional Table members, and other leaders from across the denomination. Delegates are invited to ask questions of the interviewees in advance via Twitter using the hashtag #CTTalks.

An accompanying one-page conversation starter is available for delegates to use to continue the dialogue. The videos and the handout will be available on the Connectional Table website at www.umc.org/cttalks-human-sexuality.

General Conference will be held May 10-20, 2016, in Portland, Oregon.

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About the Connectional Table

The Connectional Table is where leaders of The United Methodist Church discern and articulate the vision for the church and where ministry and money are brought to the same table to coordinate the mission, ministries and resources of the church.

www.umc.org/connectionaltable

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