

Sermon Discussion Questions

1. Read 1 Corinthians 13:1-7. Identify some of the qualities of love described in this passage.
2. Why is it important to start with the idea of love when preparing to discuss issues over which people might have strong convictions and significant disagreement?
3. What do you like about the United Methodist Church? Is there anything you find frustrating or disappointing about the United Methodist Church?
4. John Wesley (founder of the Methodists) used to ask the question: "If we cannot all think alike, can we learn to love alike? Can we be of one heart even if we are not of one opinion?" Why does that approach seem more difficult these days?
5. Why do you think the issue of homosexuality is so emotional and divisive today?
6. Do you have any family relationships or friendships with people who identify as Homosexual or LGBTQ? How does their sexual orientation impact your relationship with them?
7. How would you feel about same sex weddings being celebrated in the Sanctuary of Virginia Beach UMC?
8. How would you feel about having an openly gay or lesbian Pastor as the Pastor of Virginia Beach UMC?
9. Pastor Mark has said that he will accept and comply with whatever decisions come from the General Conference meeting Feb 23-26, because he is trusting that the Holy Spirit will be at work through the process. He says he can still lead a church where people "agree to disagree" on some issues. Would you be able to remain active in and supportive of a church where you might have to "agree to disagree" on this issue?