



Commission on a Way Forward

Council of Bishops



THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 3, 2018

Commission on a Way Forward releases final videos for 2019 General Conference

WASHINGTON, D.C. – The Commission on a Way Forward has released the final two videos of a series that the Commission hopes will inform The United Methodist Church on its processes and work done during the 18-month period of its meetings and deliberations. The Commission has released a total of ten videos in this series in the last three weeks. The videos can be viewed on Facebook or YouTube and can be downloaded for viewing offline.

The videos released today are:

- **Patricia Miller**, Executive Director of the Confessing Movement, and **Matt Berryman**, former Executive Director of Reconciling Ministries Network, talk about their friendship and their experiences serving together on the Commission. (Length 7:55)
Download: <https://tinyurl.com/millerandberryman>
YouTube: <https://youtu.be/xbR96EBI5Qk>
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/umcforward/videos/2122013974747651/>
- Commission members **Mazvita Machinga** (laity, Zimbabwe East Conference), **David Field** (laity, Swiss Conference), and **Myungrae Kim Lee** (laity, New York Conference), share their thoughts about the work of the Commission. (Length 10:56)
Download: <https://tinyurl.com/machinga-fields-lee>
YouTube: <https://youtu.be/rfL-en8wnho>
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/umcforward/videos/2122020988080283/>

In the last two weeks, the Commission released the following videos:

- **Gil Rendle: A Parable for Today** is a video featuring Commission consultant, Gil Rendle. Gil shares a story that illustrates the difference between positions and interests. When we are able to move from holding onto our positions to seeking to understand each other's underlying interests, we are better able to move forward together. (Length 5:14).
Download: <https://tinyurl.com/COWFRendleParable>
YouTube: <https://youtu.be/D8ZGS6Dpl9g>
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/umcforward/videos/2114710432144672/>
- **Gil Rendle** gives an overview of the **Purpose, Principles and Importance of the work of the Commission**. This video was recorded during the final Commission meeting in May 2018. The video gives an in-depth theological and technical overview of the work done by the Commission that helps to frame the task given to the delegates to the February 2019 General Conference. (Length 54:18).
Download: <https://tinyurl.com/cowfRendleOverview>
YouTube: <https://youtu.be/j9sDqunec2o>
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/umcforward/videos/2122158108066571/>
- **Bishop Grant Hagiya**, a member of the Commission, shares reflections on the book *Anatomy of Peace*. Bishop Hagiya explains why the principles of this book can help us make a fundamental shift to allowing spaces where people can have open and honest dialogue with one another. (Length 5:44)
Download: <https://tinyurl.com/COWFAnatomyPeace>
YouTube: <https://youtu.be/6trW2HJuwP8>
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/umcforward/videos/2122150748067307/>

- Commission members **Donna Pritchard** (clergy, Oregon-Idaho Conference), **Tom Salsgiver** (clergy, Susquehanna Conference) and **Leah Taylor** (laity, Texas Conference) share reflections on their work, the value of connection, and the relationships they formed during their time together as members on the Commission. (Length 7:02)

Download: <https://tinyurl.com/COWFTomDonnaLeah2>
 YouTube: <https://youtu.be/v15xKoURFU>
 Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/umcforward/videos/2122086861407029/>
- **Bishops Sandra Steiner Ball, David Yemba and Ken Carter** share an overview of their role as moderators for the Commission and how service was one of their primary focuses. (Length 5:35).

Download: <https://tinyurl.com/moderatorsview>
 YouTube <https://youtu.be/5tOGnPrLqKg>
 Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/umcforward/videos/2114673678815014/>
- **Jasmine Smothers, Julie Hager Love and Tom Berlin** are Commission members who are also clergy serving in the Southeastern Jurisdiction (SEJ). In this interview, they reflect on their experience and their hopes for the future of the United Methodist Church. (Length 5:46).

Download: <https://tinyurl.com/smothers-love-berlin>
 YouTube: <https://youtu.be/85KP5qxfCpA>
 Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/umcforward/videos/2114649482150767/>
- **Dave Nuckols** (laity, Minnesota Conference) and **Helen Cunanan** (clergy, Pampango Philippines Conference) have a conversation about the Commission, sharing their experiences from different places in the world. (Length 7:50).

Download: <https://tinyurl.com/nuckols-cunanan>
 YouTube: <https://youtu.be/pJCPnFqQgUU>
 Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/umcforward/videos/2114658032149912/>
- **Bishops Gregory Palmer and Robert Schnase**, who are members of the Commission, talk about how the work of the Commission points to the larger mission of The United Methodist Church. (Length 5:35).

Download: <https://tinyurl.com/palmer-schnase>
 YouTube <https://youtu.be/52EVb7wuva8>
 Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/umcforward/videos/2114658685483180/>

About the Commission: *The 32-member Commission on a Way Forward was appointed by the Council of Bishops to assist the bishops in their charge from the 2016 General Conference to lead the church forward amid the present impasse related to LGBTQ inclusion and resulting questions about the unity of the church.*

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