

August 26, 2018 All Church Meeting

Purpose is to vote on the following Welcoming Statement and Question

Time: 12 noon or Immediately Following 11am Service

Place: Christian Life Center

### **Outline of Events**

The members of the church will be voting on the following:

#### **Proposed Welcoming Statement:**

We, the people of First United Methodist Church West Lafayette, welcome everyone, through all life's stages, with arms that are open, respectful, and loving. And by everyone, we mean regardless of a person's sexual orientation, gender identity, nationality, race, ability, bank balance, or background. As a Reconciling Congregation, we welcome you into our church family, for it is by joining hands that we support one another and share our faith journey together. Whoever you are, and wherever you are in your spiritual journey, you are welcome here.

#### **Question to be voted on by FUMC members:**

Should FUMC adopt this Welcoming Statement, and be listed with the Reconciling Ministries Network's listing of LGBTQ+ welcoming congregations?

#### **Procedure:**

- Lore Blinn Gibson, Conference Superintendent, will be present to help guide discussion and pray.
- Minutes will be taken.
- Debbie Givan, representing the Everyone Means Everyone Class, will present the motion including the processes that led to this vote and statement.
- There will be limited discussion allowed, two in favor and two against the motion.
- Discussion comments will be limited to less than 3 minutes.
- The question will be voted on as presented here and as was presented in the church exploratory survey. We will not be taking amendments on this question or welcoming statement.
- Only those who are active members in good standing are able to vote.
- Vote will be taken by paper ballot.
- Ballots will be counted by at least three pre-determined tellers.
- A positive yes decision needs to be 75% in favor of those present and voting.

Should the question not pass, a substitute motion would be in order at that time.