

Discernment Team Statement

The United Methodist Church is facing changes. Congregations around the globe are debating whether they want to stay with the denomination or disaffiliate due to a number of complicated and challenging disagreements, including the authority of Holy Scripture and some Bishops not following the Book of Discipline. To help our congregation make an informed decision, our Church Council voted to form a Discernment Team. The team's purpose is to objectively gather and disseminate information about the relevant issues. It will not vote on the future of the church. If the Church Council decides to take a vote, it will be the church membership that would decide whether to disaffiliate or stay in the denomination. The Discernment Team Members were nominated from the Nominations Committee and approved by the Church Council.



As our church begins the discernment process, we encourage all members of the ORUMC family to do their own research. We recommend starting at wesleymemorial.org (also available through the QR code), and we arranged for **Pastor Terry Moore to speak at 4 p.m. on Nov. 13 and District Superintendent Beverly Copley at 3 p.m. on Nov. 20.** We invite everyone to hear the speakers either in person or online and submit any questions you may have.

This is an ongoing process, and during this period of discernment, members of the Discernment Team will be available to the congregation to help answer questions and obtain requested information.

This is a complicated and challenging time in our church, and we encourage all to move forward in prayer, faith and love as we make these important and difficult decisions.

Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight. – Proverbs 3:5-6

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