

# #Pray**FORWARD**

## Discussion Guide

### For Your Consideration:

#### *Philippians 2:1-13*

If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, <sup>2</sup>make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. <sup>3</sup>Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. <sup>4</sup>Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. <sup>5</sup>Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, <sup>6</sup> who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, <sup>7</sup> but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, <sup>8</sup> he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death— even death on a cross.

<sup>9</sup> Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, <sup>10</sup> so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, <sup>11</sup> and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

<sup>12</sup> Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence, but much more now in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; <sup>13</sup> for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

## **Discussion questions:**

Where do others make decisions that you have to live by?

Have there been situations where you had to rely on someone else representing you? How did that feel? How did that go?

When have you made decisions for others? What was their response? How did it feel to have the responsibility of representing others?

For you, what are essential Christian beliefs and practices?

When have you felt “of one mind” with someone else? When have you felt “of one heart” with someone? What did those experiences feel like?

Describe a moment when you've worked alongside someone who believed differently than you? On what were you able to work together?

When have you witnessed a community making healthy and holy decisions through a healthy and holy process?

With whom have you had tough conversations leading you passed disagreement and toward reconciliation?

What work does the church need to get back to beyond any disagreements we have with one another?

## **Invitation to Act:**

We invite young people to be in prayer for the United Methodist Church. And, to help others pray for General Conference 2019, we invite you to submit written prayers, video prayers, creative/musical/artistic prayers and more at <http://umcyoungpeople.org/about/prayforward>