CCUMC Human Sexuality Conversation

Preview and Outline

*“Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.” -John 14:27*

Yes, “human sexuality” and homosexuality are among those challenging conversations we dread to have. However, with the grace of God, our love for God and for one another can shine through even now.

**Session IV:**

Romans 15

Wesley’s sermon, “Means of Grace”

III. What early Methodism was about

A. Accountability: class and band meetings

-Three General Rules

-Articles of Religion

-Against predestination—theology of grace, Christian perfection

B. Evangelism

-Evangelical

-Progressive/social justice

-Free grace

C. Mission

-Extension of grace and evangelism

D. Revival

-Catholic spirit: diverse but shared faith and theology

-Wesley’s evolving beliefs/biblical interpretation

-Wesleyan quadrilateral

E. Denomination

-Everything changed soon after becoming a denomination

-How Methodism was defined vs. how it, and other denominations, now are

-What does it matter whether we are “Methodist” Christians or not?

-What if we’ve never really understood what Methodism is? Does that matter? Again, what happens if we realize Methodism is not “for me?”

-What does it mean if the original purpose of Methodism does not align with the United Methodist Church?

-What about accommodation and tolerance? What room is there for those concepts in a Methodist movement?

-Can we simultaneously say that there is one truth of God and also that there are multiple valid ways of reading the Bible?

-How can we believe what we believe firmly if our C/church disagrees with our personal beliefs?

-Do we want to (re)claim a spirit of Methodism for the sake of Christ, ourselves, and neighbors?