

# Monthly Update

February 2016

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

First of all, I want to thank you again for your response to our December appeal to financially support our ministry. This enables us to continue what we do, especially now as we are fully focused on General Conference 2016 in Portland, Oregon.

This edition of the Monthly Update contains a short biography of someone I have long admired – George Washington Carver. Years ago before I was a Christian and while still in the Army, I visited his laboratory at Tuskegee University in Alabama. As I went through the building, I was impressed with the fact that it seemed he had a “channel” to knowledge from God that led him to develop so many things. He was truly impressive.

Then we delve into some of the more controversial areas such as “life” issues with the narrative of how a father took extreme actions to protect his comatose son; we look at the continued “conversation” over an issue that should be resolved in our United Methodist Church – that of “sexuality”. Indeed, after attending a “pre-General Conference” meeting in Portland, Oregon, I confirmed the nature of the challenges we will meet in this area. We in Concerned Methodists are also formulating our strategy in how we will approach the initiatives that will be used by the other side to pass their petitions in this area. Also, in this Monthly Update I shall respond to an anonymous letter we received about “climate change” and how we had addressed it.

I had wanted to share with you an e-mail I received from Darlene Dowlen, who is with an allied group, Aldersgate Renewal Ministries (ARM). She had sent,

Dear Allen,

“...Each week the staff gathers to worship and to pray. It is our practice to lift ARM Family Partners by name in prayer. We wanted you to know that you were upheld in prayer this week. May you rest in the assurance of God’s steadfast love, boundless grace, and infinite mercy for every step of the journey.

“Do not hesitate to contact us if there are specific prayer requests we can help you uplift. It would be our joy to join you in prayer....” – Darlene Dowlen

At the bottom of the message she had printed the scripture passage from Isaiah 35:3-10, that was meaningful as I read it in the context of her note. This means so much to us. In the same way, we all so much appreciate your prayers, notes of affirmation, and encouragement. I ask that you please continue to partner with us as we “contend for the faith” as the Lord has called us to do.

In His service,

Allen O. Morris  
Executive Director

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# February 2016 Update

## Bits and Pieces from across the United Methodist Church

### 8 Second Prayer:

“Lord, I love you and I need you.  
Come into my heart, and bless me,  
my family, my home, my finances,  
and all of my friends.  
In Jesus’ name. Amen.”

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### The Good Stuff

+ Recently retired U.S. Navy Captain Edwin A. Shuman III died. He was held captive during the Vietnam War at the infamous prison camp known as the “Hanoi Hilton.” Shuman rallied his fellow prisoners to defy their communist captors with simple expressions of faith.

In late 1970 Shuman chose to lead the captured Americans in prayer, even though he knew this act of disobedience was certain to result in his torture. Having received a commitment to participate in a church service from all 42 men incarcerated with him in a large holding area, Shuman began to pray. North Vietnamese guards immediately dragged him away for punishment. But encouraged by his leadership, the other prisoners continued and even managed to complete the Lord’s Prayer despite brutal beatings administered by their captors.

Faced with this united opposition, the prison guards relented. And from then on, until their release and return to the United States in 1973, the men held a weekly church service at the prison. Ned Shuman and his fellow prisoners served as inspiring examples of faith and courage in the most difficult of circumstances. May he rest in peace.

### + *George Washington Carver.*

[Note: I read and have in my own personal library the book “George Washington Carver” by Rackham Holt. – AOM]

“...where a religion of hate, (which poisons both body & soul) will be unknown,  
having in its place the ‘Golden Rule’ way, which is the ‘Jesus Way’ of life.”

George Washington Carver was born a slave during the Civil War, possibly in 1865, but there are no records. Within a few weeks, his father, who belonged to the next farm over, was killed in a log hauling accident. Shortly after the Civil War, bushwhackers kidnapped infant George with his mother and sister. Moses Carver sent friends to track down the thieves and trade his best horse to retrieve them. The thieves only left baby George, lying on the ground, sick with the whooping cough. George never saw his mother and sister again. Illness claimed the lives of his two other sisters and they were buried on the Carver farm.

George and his older brother, Jim, were raised in Diamond Grove, Missouri, by “Uncle” Moses and “Aunt” Sue Carver, a childless German immigrant couple. In poor health as a child, George stayed near the house helping with chores, learning to cook, clean, sew, mend and wash laundry, skills that he would later use to support himself. His recreation was to spend time in the woods. He left home at eleven and attended school in Neosho, Missouri, paying his own tuition by doing odd jobs. George Carver drifted from Kansas to Iowa, working as a cook and doing laundry. He studied at Simpson College, received a bachelor’s and master’s degree from Iowa State, where he was hired as a teacher.

In the Spring of 1896, Booker T. Washington invited George Washington Carver to teach at Tuskegee, as he had just received his Master’s Degree from Iowa State Agricultural Institute:

“Tuskegee Institute seeks to provide education – a means for survival to those who attend. Our students are poor, often starving. They travel miles of torn roads, across years of poverty. We teach them to read and write, but words cannot fill stomachs. They need to learn how to plant and harvest crops...

I cannot offer you money, position or fame. The first two you have. The last, from the place you now occupy, you will no doubt achieve. These things I now ask you to give up.

I offer you in their place-work-hard, hard work-the challenge of bringing people from degradation, poverty and waste to full manhood.”

On May 16, 1896, Carver responded to Washington:

“My dear Sir, I am just in receipt of yours of the 13<sup>th</sup> inst., and hasten to reply.

I am looking forward to a very busy, pleasant and profitable time at your college and shall be glad to cooperate with you in doing all I can through Christ who strengtheneth me to better the condition of our people.

Some months ago I read your stirring address delivered at Chicago and I said amen to all you said, furthermore you have the correct solution to the ‘race problem’...

Providence permitting, I will be there in November. God bless you and your work, Geo. W. Carver.”

In the fall of 1896, George surprised the staff at Iowa State College by announcing his plans to give up his promising future there and accept Booker T. Washington offer to teach at Tuskegee Institute in Alabama. The staff showed their appreciation by purchasing him a going away present, a microscope, which he used extensively throughout his career.

George assembled an Agricultural Department at Tuskegee. He visited nearby farmers and would teach them farming techniques, such as crop rotation, fertilization and erosion prevention. Carver noticed that the soil was depleted due to years of repeated cotton growth and produced very poorly. During this time, an insect called the boll weevil swept through the South, destroying cotton crops and leaving farmers devastated. George showed the farmers the benefits of crop rotation and planting legumes, such as peanuts, which replenish the soil with nitrogen.

Farmers heeded Carver’s advice but soon had more peanuts than the market wanted, as peanuts were primarily used as animal feed. George determined to find more uses for the peanut to increase the market for them. Carver is credited with discovering and/or popularizing hundreds of uses for the peanut, soybean, sweet potato, pecan, cowpea, wild plum, and okra revolutionizing the South’s economy.

A partial list of items derived from peanuts was compiled by the Carver Museum at Tuskegee:

+ BEVERAGES: blackberry punch, cherry punch, lemon punch, orange punch, peanut punch, beverage for ice cream, evaporated peanut beverage; dry coffee, instant coffee, 32 different kinds of milk, dehydrated milk flakes, buttermilk.

+ FOODS: peanut butter, salted peanuts, peanut flour, peanut flakes, peanut meal, cream from peanut milk, butter from peanut milk, egg yolk, breakfast food, bisque powder, cheese, cream cheese, cheese pimento, cheese sandwich, cheese tutti frutti, cocoa, crystallized peanuts, curds, granulated potatoes, potato nibs, golden nuts, mock coconut, pancake flour, peanut hearts, peanut surprise, peanut wafers, pickle, sweet pickle, shredded peanuts, substitute asparagus.

In 1928, Dr. Carver stated: “Human need is really a great spiritual vacuum which God seeks to fill...With one hand in the hand of a fellow man in need and the other in the hand of Christ, He could get across the vacuum...Then the passage, ‘I can do all things through Christ which strengthens me,’ came to have real meaning.”

In the summer of 1920, the Young Men’s Christian Association of Blue Ridge, North Carolina, invited Professor Carver to speak at their summer school for the southern states. Dr. Willis D. Weatherford, President of Blue Ridge, introduced him as the speaker. With his high voice surprising the audience, Dr. Carver exclaimed humorously: “I always look forward to introductions as opportunities to learn something about myself....” He

continued: “Years ago I went into my laboratory and said, ‘Dear Mr. Creator, please tell me what the universe was made for?’

The...Creator answered, ‘You want to know too much for that little mind of yours. Ask for something more your size, little man.’

Then I asked, ‘Please, Mr. Creator, tell me what man was made for.’

Again the Great Creator replied, ‘You are still asking too much. Cut down on the extent and improve the intent.’

So then I asked, ‘Please, Mr. Creator, will you tell me why the peanut was made?’

‘That’s better, but even then it’s infinite. What do you want to know about the peanut?’

‘Mr. Creator, can I make milk out of the peanut?’

‘What kind of milk do you want? Good Jersey milk or just plain boarding house milk?’

‘Good Jersey milk.’ And then the Great Creator taught me to take the peanut apart and put it together again. And out of the process have come forth all these products!”

Among the numerous products displayed was a bottle of good Jersey milk. Three and-a-half ounces of peanuts produced one pint of rich milk or one quart of raw “skim” milk, called boarding house “blue john” milk.

On November 19, 1924, Carver spoke to over 500 people at the Women’s Board of Domestic Missions: “God is going to reveal to us things He never revealed before if we put our hands in His. No books ever go into my laboratory. The thing I am to do and the way are revealed to me the moment I am inspired to create something new.

Without God to draw aside the curtain, I would be helpless. Only alone can I draw close enough to God to discover His secrets.”

On March 24, 1925, Carver wrote to Robert Johnson, an employee of Chesley Enterprises of Ontario: “Thank God I love humanity; complexion doesn’t interest me one single bit.” Though from a disadvantaged background, George did not let this pull him down into harboring self-pity and bitterness, or yielding to a hateful victim-hood mentality.

On March 1, 1927, George W. Carver wrote to Jack Boyd, a YMCA official in Denver, CO: “My beloved friend, keep your hand in that of the Master, walk daily by His side, so that you may lead others into the realms of true happiness, where a religion of hate, (which poisons both body and soul) will be unknown, having in its place the ‘Golden Rule’ way, which is the ‘Jesus Way’ of life, will reign supreme...

Then, we can walk and talk with Jesus momentarily, because we will be attuned to His will and wishes... God, my beloved friend is infinite the highest embodiment of love.

We are finite, surrounded and often filled with hate. We can only understand the infinite as we loose the finite and take on the infinite.”

This was also the attitude of Washington, who wrote in *Up From Slavery* (1901):

“It is now long ago that I learned this lesson from General Samuel Chapman Armstrong, and resolved that I would permit no

man, no matter what his color might be, to narrow and degrade my soul by making me hate him.

With God’s help, I believe that I have completely rid myself of any ill feeling toward the Southern white man for any wrong that he may have inflicted upon my race.

I am made to feel just as happy now when I am rendering service to Southern white men as when the service is rendered to a member of my own race.

I pity from the bottom of my heart any individual who is so unfortunate as to get into the habit of holding race prejudice.”

On July 10, 1924, Carver wrote to James Hardwick:

“God cannot use you as He wishes until you come into the fullness of His Glory. Do not get alarmed, my friend, when doubts creep in. That is old Satan. Pray, pray, pray.

Oh, my friend, I am praying that God will come in and rid you entirely of self so you can go out after souls right, or rather have souls seek the Christ in you. This is my prayer for you always.”

Carver addressed Congress and met with Presidents Teddy Roosevelt, Calvin Coolidge and Franklin Roosevelt. He was offered jobs by Henry Ford and Thomas Edison, and received correspondence from world leaders, including Gandhi and Stalin.

Carver died January 5, 1943.

[Note: George Washington Carver is someone for whom I have the highest degree of respect. – AOM]

– Bill Federer to speak, taken from the book *George Washington Carver-His Life & Faith in His Own Words*. American Minute. Permission granted courtesy of [www.AmericanMinute.com](http://www.AmericanMinute.com) [

### **Of Interest.**

+ [Tonight] the president is set to give his final State of the Union address. I can tell you the state of our union. Our nation is broken—it’s broken morally; it’s broken spiritually; it’s broken politically; it’s broken racially. The state of our union cannot be fixed unless we repent of our sins individually and ask our nation to do the same. I’ve just led a Decision America Tour prayer rally in the capital of Florida--#2 of 50! Now I’m on the way to Baton Rouge to pray with the people of Louisiana for their state and this nation tomorrow at noon. Mr. President, I hope in the time you have remaining in office that you will turn to God for wisdom and direction about how to lead this nation. May your last 12 months be the best and most beneficial for this country. “Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord” (Psalm 33:12).

– Franklin Graham

### **+ *The Future of the United Methodist Church.***

“Dear United Methodist Friends,

I hope that you and yours have been blessed with a meaningful and restful celebration of our Lord’s incarnation. In this season of celebrating Christ’s coming to offer us new life, my wife and I were thrilled to have our newborn son baptized at the United Methodist congregation of which we are members. Since infant baptism is often a source of great confusion, I offered these clarifying remarks about what it is and is not in our United Methodist tradition. When people of any age are baptized into our local United Methodist churches, all members present make a sacred, covenant commitment to support the Christian nurture of the newly baptized individual. But what sort of place for Christian nurture will our United Methodist Church be as my son grows up? In the years ahead, will our denomination do increasingly more to cause such precious “little ones” to stumble, with false teachings being unchallenged, immoral leaders remaining unaccountable, and both being allowed to overwhelm even more faithful segments of our church? Or will they eventually find a United Methodist Church renewed in biblical faithfulness, thanks to God working through members like you and me as we patiently renew our long-term community commitments to the most spiritually vulnerable people who will remain part of the United Methodist Church in the years ahead?

– John Lomperis, M.Div.,  
UM Action.

### **+ *Imagine No Malaria.***

[Note: But where in all of this is the message about salvation through Jesus Christ? Yes, we need to save them from malaria, but can we not communicate to them the message that would save them from their sins? – AOM]

Thank You for Your Generosity to Imagine No Malaria (INM). Thank you! Because of your generosity, over 2.3 million bed nets have been distributed. Families are being educated about malaria prevention. More than 300 health clinics are being equipped with diagnostic tests and medication. 11,600 health workers have been trained. Standing water is being drained and sanitation methods are being improved. Because of your generosity, the

malaria death rate has been cut in half in Africa. Children at risk of dying from malaria five years ago will now live. We give thanks for this progress with the knowledge that the battle goes on. The goal is to eradicate malaria, so we cannot quit the cause. We must not stop imagining no malaria in our lifetime!

Malaria is preventable. Malaria is treatable. Malaria is beatable.

Pass this information to your family and friends. Everyone should have the opportunity to make a difference!

Bringing INM gifts to the manger.

At All God's Children UMC, each Sunday in Advent began with a different Imagine No Malaria video. The entire service was held in darkness, with only light from candles. Candles were lit around the manger covered with mosquito net and the congregation came, placing gifts in a basket under the manger. It was a beautiful and sacred moment each Sunday.

We can do more. – Bishop Hope Morgan Ward

Share your stories: How is your church/charge engaging people in the Imagine No Malaria endeavor? Donate Today.

Join the NC Conference effort to raise \$1 million and save 100,000 lives.

[Note: My father had malaria that he had contracted in the South Pacific during World War II, and I applaud efforts in this area, but I must ask again, “Where in all of this is the message about salvation through Jesus Christ?” – AOM]

– NC Conference of The UMC; December 29, 2015.

### **Abortion, Assisted Suicide, Euthanasia & Other Life Issues. *Pulling the plug? Or pulling a gun.***

[Note: This is instructive in that hospital personnel are, at times, too quick to declare someone “brain dead” when that may not be the case. It also appears that there is a too-quick interest in having body parts for an “organ donation” be made available for transplant. Again, the hospital was about to terminate life support while the patient was still alive but not conscious of what was going on. The patient would have, in effect, suffocated if it had been removed. This is reflective of other case studies we have and shows a growing callousness toward life issues of people. – AOM]

“Hey, we need the police stat, to the hospital. We have a family member with a gun.” This is the call that a staff member at Tomball Regional Medical Center put in 11 months ago, when George Pickering of Pinehurst, Texas, angrily pulled out a 9 mm handgun while standing at his son's hospital bedside.

Gary Hammond, Tomball police's head of criminal investigations, told the *Houston Chronicle* at the time that Pickering was “distracted” over the care his son, George Pickering III, was receiving. The younger Pickering was on life support after having a stroke. According to witnesses, Pickering yelled, “I'll kill all of you,” and pointed the gun at hospital workers. A nurse and Pickering's ex-wife left after he reportedly said, “You don't think that's the only weapon I got.” Although Pickering was quickly disarmed by another son who was also at the hospital, he refused to surrender to police officers, resulting in an hours-long standoff with SWAT officers in the hospital room, as Pickering held his son's hand all the while. Eventually, he was coaxed into surrendering, according to the *Chronicle*. The incident landed Pickering behind bars on two counts of aggravated assault with a deadly weapon – for which he was released from jail just this month. One of the charges was dropped and the other reduced to a state jail felony.

According to CNN affiliate KPRC, Pickering was also given credit for time served. Along with Pickering's freedom has come a chance at redemption, as the father recently told KPRC why he felt compelled to threaten violence that day.

It was because he wanted to save his son's life.

Pickering recounted that his son had had seizures in the past, so he knew the procedure. He also knew that contrary to what the hospital told him in January, his son wasn't “brain dead.” Call it father's intuition. Something told Pickering that the hospital was wrong to order a “terminal wean,” which would have slowly removed his son from life support.

According to KPRC, someone had even already notified an organ donation organization of an incoming donation. “They were moving too fast. The hospital, the nurses, the doctors,” Pickering told KPRC. “I knew if I had three or four hours that night that I would know whether George was brain dead.”

No one was listening, Pickering said, so he bided his time the only way he could think of – by pulling out a gun. “At that point I had blinders on,” said Pickering, who admitted that he was drunk as the incident unfolded. “All I knew I just needed to have this time with George.” His desperate strategy worked. [In] the hours in which Pickering refused to leave his son’s room even at the behest of SWAT officers, he felt his son squeeze his hand several times on command. With confirmation that his son was responsive and wasn’t brain dead as doctors believed, Pickering peacefully surrendered.

In response to KPRC, officials at Tomball Regional Medical Center declined to comment on Pickering’s individual case, citing privacy laws. In a written statement, the hospital said: “Physicians use their medical knowledge and experience to develop a patient’s plan of care and these actions save lives each day. When a patient’s condition makes them unable to participate in their own care, the appropriate substitute decision-maker has the right to decide whether or not they will move forward with a recommended care plan. However, that decision must be expressed in a way that does not endanger other patients or caregivers.”

Today, George Pickering III is healthy and fully recovered, an indication perhaps of his father’s prescience. According to KPRC, the pair share “an unbreakable bond,” running a small electrical engineering business and building their own home together. The younger Pickering, his father’s spitting image, was moved after learning about what took place. “Everything good that made me a man is because of that man sitting next to me,” he said. “There was a law broken, but it was broken for all the right reasons. I’m here now because of it. It was love.”

– Yanan Wang is a reporter on the Morning Mix team.

### **(UM) General Conference – 2016.**

+ *Global warming.* An anonymous person had sent me a note taking issue with the way we had addressed this issue. First of all, I need to state that I had been in the Boy Scouts for several years, having earned the rank of Eagle, and practice the maxim of not having a negative on your environment: when you camp in nature, when you leave there should be not sign that you have ever been there and you need to leave the area either the same or more improved from a nature standpoint.

But I stand against it for several reasons. First, the science is not settled. There are respectable scientists who support it, to include one for whom I have a great deal of respect. On the other side are those who are skeptical of and believe, for a variety of reasons, that it is unproven. Possibly foremost among them is the man who had founded The Weather Channel on television. With a PhD. in climatology and weather forecasting, he is passionate in his opposition to it. In another area, I am aware of a petition that had been signed by over two hundred scientists taking a stand against it.

I also stand against it for several reasons. In the early “1990s” when the Soviet Empire had “collapsed” as it was then, some who had a far-left ideology and espoused a platform against the capitalistic/free-enterprise system, on which the commercial system in America is formed, shifted their activism to that of “Global Warming” as an aspect of “Green Theology” – and a way to oppose our industrial base. When that has been compromised (seriously questioned) on several levels, the narrative shifted to “Climate Change” – something that is more difficult to disprove (or prove either). This has as its premise that human beings are a “weed” on the planet and are successively depleting of its earthly “life-giving” natural resources such as fertility, water, clean air, and sustainability. Therefore, things such as abortion, homosexual practice, and selective genocide are not necessarily bad since they are seen as ways to reduce the human population of the earth from its present level to one that is more sustainable, perhaps around one billion people. But in several areas, their arguments cannot be supported. First of all is that of the “global warming” argument. In one issue of Time Magazine in 1975 the cover carried a headline that read “The Coming Ice Age” – a very different prediction of less than fifty years ago. Secondly, one statistic shows that through satellite measurements over the last 19 years, the earth has warmed ¼ %. Yet another statistic is that there is more carbon dioxide (the “Climate Change” proponents’ chief villain) is introduced into the atmosphere by flatulence from cattle world-wide than is caused by humans. Yet another factor is that one study showed that there are more trees growing in the United States than fifty years

ago, planted by logging, naturalist, and environmental groups, people concerned about the future of our nation; I cannot argue that aspect one way or the other.

Yet another is the political aspects of this issue – in that billions of dollars are spent by different governmental entities on this area, and that the public pressure is more about lobbying money than reality. I believe that this is potent reason.

But the strongest reason for my standing against it is that I have complete confidence in God, his care for us, and the way that He has engineered the universe. In the “Green Theology’s” world, the big culprit is, again, “carbon emissions” – or in reality, carbon dioxide. Assuredly, we should not allow our planet to be trashed as we have done in the past at times, and we need to live a modest lifestyle not being wasteful, but we need to recognize the balance that God has built into the world. The way God has it planned, animal life (to include the way that human beings function) takes in oxygen and exhales carbon dioxide; plants do just the opposite taking in carbon dioxide and exhaling oxygen, living in a symbiotic relationship. Indeed, the Bible does say that this world is “wearing out” and will some day come to an end; we need to recognize that but still live with an “environmental friendly” relationship with it – but not be unduly concerned about our negative impact on it, nor what we think we can do to “save the planet” in going to ridiculous extremes like buying “carbon exchanges” or supporting measures such as abortion and immoral lifestyles to reduce the surface population.

I cannot help but think that from time to time God sends us reminders that He is in charge of the environment with natural phenomena such as a blizzard to the East Coast causing a world wide conference on “Climate Change” in Washington, DC to be canceled because of snow. Another is, ironically, the severe snow conditions that hit the Eastern Seaboard and especially in the Northeast prior to and after our recent Pre-General Conference meeting in Portland, Oregon that addressed “problems” of climate change and the use of fossil fuels, while ignoring other dangers such as the world wide threat posed by ISIS, threats to our liberties in America, and the burgeoning financial crisis facing the world. Indeed, some of the news was: 1/21/2016, “CNN news broadcast ‘Northeast braces for historic snowstorm’”; “1/23/16, we are having an “epic blizzard” and warnings are all in the news.”; “CNN: ‘33 million people under blizzard warning’”; “Blizzard of 2016”-In New York City today, roads will be closed at 2:30, bus service has been suspended. Above ground rail subway will be suspended at 4; ... “afraid that power to the subways will be cut off.”; “Blizzard of 2016 causes massive flight cancellations across the country.”; “Record snowfall totals hit New Jersey”; “New York City crippled by incredible storm. 26.8 inches of snow in New York, 2<sup>nd</sup> heaviest since 1869” (headlines January 24<sup>th</sup>, 2016, by both CNN, Fox News); Fox News, “storm cost 20 lives.”; “Over 1,000 flights canceled; 3 major airports for NYC were closed” etc.

+ Other issues discussed at Pre-General Conference included: “sexuality”; Israel, etc. Our work is cut out for us. – AOM.

+ ***Unity Dialogue – Possible Ways Forward – General Conference 2016.***

[Note: The continuing “dialogues” are attempts to chip away at the church’s stand against those who would change to approval of homosexual/lesbian practice, same-sex unions, and homosexual ordination. There is no need for further “dialogues”; the Bible has already spoken. Suppose some laypeople proposed that we “dialogue” on the question as to whether or not we should pay apportionments; do you think our church leadership would go along with that idea? Definitely not. Yet there is even more latitude in the Bible over that issue on what we should do about sexuality. – AOM]

THE UNITY DIALOGUE General Conference 2016 Discussing Possible Ways Forward Regarding Human Sexuality Change – Choice – Continuance Where: Dixon Chapel – NC Conference of The United Methodist Church 700 Waterfield Ridge Place, Garner, NC When: January 13, 2016/Wednesday/2:00-4:00 p.m.

Agenda for the Day A Service of Holy Communion; Rev. Leonard Fairley – Sermon Welcome/Introductions. [This was notification was disseminated by the NC Conference of The UMC, 700 Waterfield Ridge Place, Garner, NC 27529.



**Homosexuality.** *Christian Judge Roy Moore defies ‘Gay’ Marriage Ruling.* The heroic Chief Justice of the Alabama Supreme Court is taking another stand. “Alabama’s top justice has ordered the state's judges to uphold the Alabama Sanctity of Marriage Amendment, despite the U.S. Supreme Court Obergefell v. Hodges decision last June redefining marriage,” reports LifeSiteNews.com. “Chief Justice Roy Moore said probate judges have a ministerial duty not to issue marriage licenses in conflict with the state marriage amendment pending a decision from the Alabama Supreme Court.

“Confusion and uncertainty exist among the probate judges of this State as to the effect of Obergefell on the 'existing orders' in API," Moore said in a January 6 administrative order. Many probate judges are issuing marriage licenses to same-sex couples in accordance with Obergefell; others are issuing marriage licenses only to couples of the opposite gender or have ceased issuing all marriage licenses. This disparity affects the administration of justice in this State.”

“Moore said he did not intend to defy the Supreme Court but that there were ‘conflicting orders’ between the U.S. Supreme Court and the Alabama Supreme Court, according to a report from the Montgomery Advertiser.”  
[Dr. Chaps’ comment: Chief Moore stood with me in 2006 for the right to pray “in Jesus’ name” and has stood tall for the 10 Commandments display. Now he defends his state Constitution and God’s law defining marriage between one man and one woman. If only other judges had his courage.]

– Chaplain Gordon James Klingenschmitt, PhD; January 20, 2016. Pray in Jesus’ Name ministry, PO Box 77077,

Colorado Springs, CO 80970. The National Organization for Marriage; January 8, 2016.

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One can ignore reality, but one cannot ignore the consequences of ignoring reality. – Ayn Rand

### **Global Outlook**

A true leader has the confidence to stand alone, the courage to make tough decisions, and the compassion listen to the needs of others. He does not set out to be a leader, but becomes one by the quality of his actions and the integrity of his intent. In the end, leaders are much like eagles...they don’t flock, you find them one at a time. –

H. Ross Perot (?)

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### **Romania.** *His beliefs sent him to prison. His faith freed him.*

Pastor Richard Wurmbrand spent 14 years in a Romanian prison cell because he would not deny Christ. His autobiography, *Tortured for Christ*, was refused by publishers for being too condemning of communist governments and too graphic in its descriptions of the horrible atrocities suffered by Christians and others. But when Wurmbrand’s book was distributed, it became an instant best-seller. Those who read it are never the same.

We invite you to share this book with anyone who may be encouraged by reading Pastor Wurmbrand’s inspirational story. Also, if you do not have a copy of *Tortured for Christ*, you may request one for yourself.

Share this international best-seller with friends, compliments of The Voice of the Martyrs. Request *Tortured for Christ* from: The Voice of the Martyrs, P.O. Box 443 Bartlesville, OK, 74005; also, you may call #: (877) 337-0302

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Praise the Lord and pass the ammunition. – Saying that was popular in World War II