

Administrative Council Actions

The following statements were approved by the Administrative Council of Richmond First United Methodist Church. September 30, 2024

Message to congregation:

At the 2024 United Methodist General Conference, churches were afforded the option as to whether they would host same-sex weddings in their facilities and express preference or not for a clergy appointment of someone who is homosexual. Richmond First UMC parishioners came together on Aug. 10, participated in a survey to express views, then met again on Sept. 14 to discuss the survey findings. The conscience of those participating in the survey clearly indicated a support for both same-sex weddings and appointment of clergy who identify as homosexual. The survey result breakdowns are available online.

Please know that the survey results were not unanimous but that most respondents believed the congregation would be best served by staying together in love and unity, understanding that we have different views on important issues.

Message to couples interested in church weddings:

Our church is a place where members come together to celebrate many aspects of the Christian life, including weddings for different and same sex couples. One of our pastors will be able to talk with you about weddings in our church.

Message to the District Superintendent and Bishop concerning clergy appointment:

A majority of our congregants are open to an appointment of clergy who identify as homosexual. We ask you to work with our SPRC to discern the right person who meets the needs for our church.