

General Conference 2020 Prayer Flag Project

Concept:

Members of the congregation, classes, small groups, and community are invited to make prayer flags which embody their prayers for General Conference through written word. These prayer flags will be stitched together and carried as a living witness to the 2020 General Conference. Our GC 2020 Witness team will use the flags to surround the plenary with our prayers as they do their work.

Materials Needed:

- 5"x6" fabric squares (cotton or muslin preferred)
- Fabric pins, markers, hot glue guns, sequins, glitter, etc.
- 1" wide rainbow ribbon

Instructions:

- Find a time to introduce the project to your small group, class or congregation. Explain that each flag can represent a prayer of lament, hope, thanksgiving, restoration, healing, etc. Invite people to make as many prayer flags as they would like and return them to the person(s) assigned to put them together. Prayer flags should leave 1 inch at the top (long-side) of the flag empty.

Assembly:

- Using the 1 inch rainbow ribbon, stitch the flags together with the images/ words facing in the same direction. Attach the ribbon on the bare space left at the top of each flag.
- We suggest making runs of prayer flags NO LONGER than 5 yards.

Why Prayer Flags?

Prayer flags are a great way to invite members of every age, stage, and experience to participate in your congregation's preparation for General Conference. Use them to help your children and youth explore their questions related to General Conference. Invite persons who may not be able to attend or participate in witnesses to make a flag as a representation of their concern and prayer for The United Methodist Church. Encourage those who may feel uncomfortable signing a letter or showing up at a physical demonstration to make a flag as a way to engage.

What do we do with them when they're done?

If your local church or conference will have people at General Conference as a witness for full-inclusion, encourage them to bring them and use them during plenary sessions as a living witness to your congregation's prayers for and commitment to full inclusion. If you do not but would like to have them present at General Conference, you may mail them to **Foundry United Methodist Church, Attn. GC Prayer Flag Project, 1500 16th Street NW, Washington, D.C. 20036**. Flags should include the name of your congregation, and a return address, clearly displayed on each run of prayer flags.

We also encourage you to use them in worship in your local church during General Conference or in your Annual Conferences at Conference events.