

## DISCERNMENT DOCUMENT

### STAY UMC

Presented below are a number of document links gathered by the Discernment Task Force to aid the members of Spanish Fort UMC in forming their opinion of the conflict within our denomination. These are broken down into categories to explain the perspective of the writer. Comments are added by our Task Force to further explain this.

#### **Stay UMC - The following articles are written from the Stay United Methodist Church viewpoint:**

1. Discernment Task Force note: This was written by the Stay UMC group and gives reason to stay UMC and not to disaffiliate. [What are the Big Concerns? - Stay UMC](#)
2. Discernment Task Force note: This was written by Don Jones and gives his reasons to stay in the United Methodist Church. [4 Reasons I Am Staying UMC | C. Don Jones \(patheos.com\)](#)
3. Discernment Task Force note: This was written by the Pastor of First UMC – Arab, AL. [Why I'm not leaving The United Methodist Church \(umnews.org\)](#)
4. Discernment Task Force notes: This is a blog by UMC Bishop Karen Olivito and gives her reasons for staying UMC. [Mountain Sky UMC | To those who are contemplating leaving The United Methodist Church \(mtnskyumc.org\)](#)
5. Discernment Task Force note: This was written in 2012 by a gay UMC church member, and why he found it intolerable that the UMC marginalized gays. In today's context this essay would be classified on the "Stay UMC" side instead of the implication of the title. [Why I'm leaving The United Methodist Church \(umnews.org\)](#)