

Pray.

Pray now,

Pray for the Others.

Love one another. The command echoes through Scripture and awakens us to life. Jesus intended for the world to verify the truth of his message by observing us in our love for one another and all God sends into our lives. (John 13:35, 17:22:23)

“I will sow them among the people: and they shall remember me in far countries.” (Zech. 10:9) According to God's will Christendom is a scattered people, scattered like seed “into all the kingdoms of the earth.” (Deut. 28:25)’ (Bonhoeffer, 1954: 18)

Gracious God, a scattering of your United Methodist people is being considered. By you, by us, or by those who oppose your church unaware of what they are doing, it's not yet clear. Leaning into the passing winds, we pause to recognize your transcendent grace and reaffirm our trust in your guiding Spirit. With the first followers of The Way of Christ we pray, “grant to your servants to speak your word with all boldness while you stretch out your hand to heal.” (Acts 4:29-30) In whatever relational field we find ourselves, bless us to be healthy vessels of your love and grace so that we may be a blessing to those you send into our lives. We pray in the name of your son, Jesus Christ. Amen.