

General and Jurisdictional Conference Delegation

This is your opportunity to nominate clergy and lay persons to serve as delegates to the 2020 General and Jurisdictional Conferences. The election of delegates will occur at the Michigan Annual Conference in June 2019. To appear in the list of nominees to be published prior to the Annual Conference, nominations must be submitted electronically by February 15, 2019. Significant decisions about the global nature of the church, mission emphasis, deployment of clergy, local church vitality, and denominational structure, are likely to be made at the 2020 General Conference.

Criteria for nominees

Lay and clergy delegates who will work hard to understand the complex issues facing the church and who have a passion for our denomination are sought to fill these positions. Nominees need to be individuals who exercise initiative and demonstrate success in visionary leadership with the local church and beyond. Delegates must be attentive to the prompting of the Holy Spirit as we embrace needed change, strengthen our connection, and enhance our ability to *make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world*.

Delegates must be present at all meetings that lead up to the General Conference, attend the General Conference in Minneapolis, MN and the Jurisdictional Conference in Fort Wayne, IN. Additionally, delegates need to be comfortable with or have ready access to a means of electronic communication. Massive amounts of information will be communicated via email and the web. Text and cell phone communication within the delegation is a vital link as well. A delegate must also be able to endure the pace of a vigorous work schedule and accommodate an extensive amount of walking.

As always, our conference must strive for a slate of nominees that is inclusive of age, gender, persons with disabilities, and ethnic diversity. We encourage you to differentiate between loyal workers who are deserving of recognition and those who truly possess the qualities needed to be an effective delegate.

Delegates must meet eligibility criteria set forth in *The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church – 2016* as follows:

- CLERGY: The Clergy Delegates to the General and Jurisdictional Conferences shall be elected from the Clergy Members in Full Connection with the Michigan Conference. (*¶135 Article IV*)
- LAITY: Lay Delegates to the General and Jurisdictional Conferences shall be members of a church within the Michigan Conference, **professing members** of The United Methodist Church for **at least two years** as of the date they are elected, and **active participants** in the United Methodist Church for **at least four years** as of the date elected. (*¶136 Article V*)



Individuals may nominate themselves or be nominated by a third party. In either case, nominees must affirm their willingness to serve if elected.

Process for nominations

To nominate an individual, please complete the appropriate Nomination Forms at left for either clergy or laity. Please be aware that questions as they appear on the online forms are in past tense.

Nominees are asked to submit a large high definition photograph (640 x 480 pixels/300 dpi or larger) in .jpg, pdf, or .pic format electronically for inclusion in the published list of nominees.

As specified by the Conference's Committee on Rules and Order of Business, completed nominations will be transmitted to the Director of Connectional Ministry, along with other members of this committee, who will oversee their collection and the extraction of relevant data for inclusion in a list of nominees that will be published on ***April 1, 2019*** only on the Michigan 2019 Conference Website: **2019.MichiganConference.org**. This list will be included as part of the package of preconference materials. Other nominations for delegates to General and Jurisdictional Conferences may be received as write-in nominations on the first ballot at the Michigan Annual Conference with no nominating speeches and no biographical sketches. For details on the nominating process, please see The Michigan Conference Plan of Organizations – Rules of Order, # 5.7.

Electronic transmissions of materials are required. Completed forms and photographic files must be emailed no later than ***February 15, 2019*** to delegation@michiganumc.org

The Committee on Rules and Order of Business greatly appreciate your prompt and prayer-guided response to the opportunity to nominate delegates to the 2020 General and Jurisdictional Conferences.