

# Profiles of Clergy & Laity Seeking Election

for

# 2016

## General Conference & Jurisdictional Conference



Annual Conference 2015  
**Arkansas**  
Hot Springs, June 14 - 17











## **Arkansas Annual Conference Information Concerning the Election of Clergy General & Jurisdictional Conference Delegates**

“The clergy delegates to the General Conference and to the jurisdictional or central conference shall be elected from the clergy members in full connection and shall be elected by the clergy members of the annual conference or provisional annual conference who are deacons and elders in full connection, associate members, and those provisional members who have completed all of their educational requirements and local pastors who have completed course of study or an M. Div. degree and have served a minimum of two consecutive years under appointment immediately preceding the election.” ¶ 35. *Article IV, The 2012 Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church*

### **Who MAY BE ELECTED as Clergy Delegates to General & Jurisdictional Conference?**

1. Elders & Deacons in full connection, active or retired.
  - Clergy who have been elected into full connection at the 2015 Clergy Session of the Annual Conference are eligible to be elected.
  - Elders & Deacons in full connection on voluntary leaves of absence are eligible to be elected.
  - Elders & Deacons in full connection on sabbatical, family, paternity/maternity, and disability leave are eligible to be elected.

### **Who MAY NOT BE ELECTED as Clergy Delegates to General & Jurisdictional Conference?**

1. Clergy suspended from pastoral duties may NOT be elected.

### **Who MAY VOTE for Clergy Delegates to General & Jurisdictional Conference?**

1. Elders & Deacons in full connection, active or retired.
  - Clergy on voluntary leaves of absence may vote.
  - Clergy on sabbatical, family, paternity/maternity, and disability leave may vote.
  - Clergy suspended from pastoral duties may vote.
2. Associate Members, active or retired.
3. Provisional Members who have completed all their educational requirements, including History, Doctrine and Polity.
4. Local Pastors who have completed the Course of Study or an M.Div. degree, and have served a minimum of two consecutive years under appointment immediately preceding election (2013-2015). The Course of Study or M.Div degree must be completed prior to the 2015 Clergy session.

### **Who MAY NOT VOTE for Clergy Delegates to General & Jurisdictional Conference?**

1. Clergy on honorable location.
2. Clergy on administrative location.
3. Local Pastors who do not meet the requirements listed in #4 above.
4. Laity

# Clergy Voting Numbers

Name	Conference Relationship	Voting Number
Abney, Thomas A.	RE	1
Adams, Stanley Wade	FE	2
Akins-Banman, Harriett	FE	3
Albright, Sam L.	RE	4
Alexander, Jaimie Jack	FE	5
Allen, Andrea E	FE	6
Allen, Maxine	FE	7
Alston, John O	RE	8
Anderson, Ben Hampton	RE	9
Anderson, Jimmy W.	RE	10
Anderson, Thomas E.	RE	11
Armour, Charles W.	FE	12
Armstrong, Robert Clyde	RE	13
Armstrong, Roger	RE	14
Arnold, Fred	RE	15
Ashcraft, Charles Gary	RE	16
Ashcraft, Thomas Mark	FE	17
Atkins, Edward Paul	FD**	18
Autry, Davida	FE	19
Averitt, Louis (Biff)	RE	20
Bainbridge, Sara S.	RE	21
Baker, Cheryl Jean Cook	FE	22
Baker, David E.	FE	23
Barling, Aaron	RE	24
Barnett, Thomas Winborn	RE	25
Barron, Mary Candace	FE	26
Barton, James Allen	RE	27
Bell, Montgomery	RE	28
Bell, Robert	FE	29
Bell, Velda	FE	30
Bell, Wayne Allen	RE	31
Benfer, James A.	FE	32
Bennett, Bruce Wayne	FE	33
Bentley, David Bruce	FE	34
Bernholdt, Jocelyn A	RD	35

Name	Conference Relationship	Voting Number
Bitter, Melvin	RE	36
Black, William Clint	FE	37
Blanchard, Michael	FE	38
Blythe, Edward	RE	39
Bodenhamer, Patricia	FE	40
Boggan, Rebecca	FD	41
Boggan, William Kurt	FE	42
Bone, W. Darrel	RE	43
Bounds, Christopher T.	FE	44
Bradford, Blake Russell	FE	45
Bradley, Heath R	FE	46
Breshears, Russell D.	FE	47
Brizzi, Stephen	FE	48
Brooks, Gail Cole	FE	49
Brooks, Jim	RE	50
Buchanan, William V.	FE	51
Bulice, Clayton	FE	52
Burks, Gregory A.	FE	53
Burnham, Rufus Robert	FE	54
Burton, Helen J.	FE	55
Burton, Kay	RE	56
Burton, Robert	FE	57
Bush, David W.	FE	58
Bys, Ivan C.	RE	59
Caldwell, Claire M	FE	60
Campbell, Joe Michael	RE	61
Carter, Curtis Norman	RE	62
Carter, Earl Bruton	RE	63
CashBurless, Martha D.	FE	64
Caudle, Helena Cathy	FD	65
Chapman, Teresa Egan	FE	66
Chesser, Lewis V.	RE	67
Cheyne, William A.	RE	68
Choate, James W.	FE	69
Christopher, James Clifton	FE	70



Name	Conference Relationship	Voting Number
Cicioni, Pamela	FD	71
Clanton, Robert A. Boyd	RE	72
Clark, J. Wayne	FE	73
Clark, Judy Wilson	RE	74
Clark, N. Wayne	RE	75
Clark, Ronald	RE	76
Clawitter, Heather Spencer	FE	77
Clayton, Michael Rowe	RE	78
Cloninger, Kim	FE	79
Cloninger, Mark	FE**	80
Cloninger, Robert Blackwell	FE	81
Coburn, Stephen	FE	82
Coffelt, Charles	FE	83
Cole, Mary Jane	FD	84
Collier, John Russell	RE	85
Collins, Gerald	RE	86
Comer, Cletus Gregory	FE	87
Connell, Foster Gladwin	RE	88
Conrad, Phillip Troy	FE	89
Conway, Luke	FE	90
Cook, Burnley Bruce	RE	91
Cook, Steve	FE	92
Cookus, Jerry Keith	RE	93
Cooper, Charles Randall	RE	94
Cooper, William Christopher	FE	95
Copley, Stephen Jean	FE	96
Coy, Paul B.	FE	97
Crismon, Benjamin William	FE	98
Criss, Douglas	FE	99
Crooks, J. David	RE	100
Cross, Carlton N.	FE	101
Cross, James H.	FE	102
Crossman, Robert Owen	RE	103
Crum, Roger Allen	FE	104
Daniels, Matthew I.	FE	105

Name	Conference Relationship	Voting Number
Dark, Dewey	RE	106
Darling, Rex G.	RE	107
Darnall, John David	RE	108
Deere, Glen David	RE	109
DeLee, Cornelia	RE	110
Delony, Lawson Leonard	FE	111
Dickey, Rex	FE	112
Dickinson, Stephen P.	FE	113
Diffee, Bryan R.	FE	114
Dill, John T.	RE	115
Dodd, Marcia	FE	116
Dodgen, Lawrence	RE	117
Dodson, Edward Kavan	FE	118
Dodson, Edwin B.	RE	119
Dodson, Royal Keith	FE	120
Doering, Carolyn	FE	121
Doering, Kirk	FE	122
Donham, Gordon	RE	123
Dorman, Wendell	RE	124
Douglas, Barbara A.	FE	125
Duncan, Jenni L.	FD	126
Durand, Jessica Lee	FE	127
Durham, Ronald W.	RE	128
Eason, William Alfred	RE	129
Eaton, David Carl	FE	130
Eaton, Lowell	RE	131
Edwards, Douglas	FE	132
Edwards, Janet T.	FE	133
Edwards, John Wayne	RE	134
Efird, Ernest Eugene	RE	135
Elliott, William Dean	RE	136
Elrod, John Bradley	FE	137
Embrey, John	FE	138
Ervin, Floyd	FE	139
Estes, Catherine	FE	140

Name	Conference Relationship	Voting Number
Estes, Pamela Jean	FE	141
Eubanks, Don	RE	142
Evans, Hammett Nichols	FE	143
Evans, Rita Kaye Hammett	RE	144
Farthing, John	RE	145
Feeser, Ronald Lewis	FE	146
Ferguson, Carter	FE	147
Ferguson, Lawrence A.	RE	148
Ferris, Pauleen Ann	FE	149
Fimple, John Charles	FE	150
Fink, Bryan	FE	151
Fiser, William P.	RE	152
Fish, Bill Lindsey	FE	153
Fleming, David	FE	154
Fleming, John Andrew	FE	155
Fleming, Marion E.	RE	156
Frase, Thomas	FE	157
Freeman, David C.	FE	158
Gage, Angela	FE	159
Gallimore, R. Scott	FE	160
Galloway, Johnna J.	FE	161
Garrison, Tammy	FE	162
Gideon, Regina Holtman	FE	163
Gillett, Denman L.	RE	164
Glover, Roger E.	RE	165
Goddard, Carol S.	RE	166
Goldman, Gary	RE	167
Gosnell, Terry M.	FE	168
Goza, Keith	RE	169
Green, Charles H "Chase"	FE**	170
Green, Victor Ellis	RE	171
Griffin, Ruben "Tony" Anthony	FE	172
Hager, Robert	RE	173
Hall, Donald L.	RE	174
Hampton, Jeffery Bernard	FE	175

Name	Conference Relationship	Voting Number
Hanshaw, David R.	RE	176
Hanson, Tandy Curtis	FE	177
Harding, Louise Thurman	RD	178
Harmon, Bennie Ross	RE	179
Harper, Charles Dee	FE	180
Harrison, Cecil	RE	181
Harrison, Gary Frank	FE	182
Harrison, James David	RE	183
Hathcock, Philip L.	RE	184
Haustein, Frederick H	RE	185
Hawkins, David Ray	FE	186
Head, William Joe	FE	187
Hemund, Chris	FE	188
Hemund, Ralph	RE	189
Henry, Cynthia Shaw	FD	190
Higgins, Leonard	FE	191
Hill, Tyrone	FE	192
Hilliard, James Wesley	FE	193
Hilliard, Mary	FE	194
Hines, Benjamin Gee	RE	195
Hocott, Gail Dee	RD	196
Hoey, Mary	RD	197
Hoffman, David D.	FE	198
Holfield, Elmer Brooks	RE	199
Holfield, J. Anthony	RE	200
Holfield, Robert	FE	201
Holt, Teresa L.	FD	202
Hook, Roger B.	RE	203
Howard, Bruce T.	RE	204
Howe, Susan	RE	205
Hudson, Donnie	FE	206
Hughes, Joseph A.	RE	207
Huie, Donnie J.	RD	208
Hull, Russell Edward	FE	209
Hunt, Robert	FE	210

Name	Conference Relationship	Voting Number
Hunter, Fred W.	FE	211
Isom, Everett	RE	212
Jackson, Carroll D	RE	213
Jarrell, R. T.	RE	214
Johnson, Matthew H	FE	215
Johnson, Merle Allison	RE	216
Johnson, Siegfried	FE	217
Johnson, Steven	FE	218
Jones, Aubrietta Lynn	FE	219
Jones, Chester Ray	RE	220
Jones, George Samuel	RE	221
Jones, John Jeffrey	FE	222
Jones, Robert David	FE	223
Jones, Rockwell F	FE	224
Jones, Sheila M.	FE	225
Jordan, Ben F.	RE	226
Kassos, J. David	FE	227
Keahey, Martha LaVerne	RD	228
Kelly, Margaret Sue	RD	229
Kelso, Larry Eugene	FE	230
Kemp, Susan Ross	RE	231
Kerr, Edwin W	RE	232
Kilbourne, Elizabeth Lynn	FE	233
Kilbourne, Nathan	FE	234
Kirby, Adam	FD	235
Kirkpatrick, Daniel R	FE	236
Kjorlaug, Andrew C	FE**	237
Lancaster, Richard A	FE	238
Langley, Robert	RE	239
Langley, Travis	FE	240
Lasater, Blake A.	FE	241
Lasater, James Mark	FE	242
Lascaro, Nicholas C	RE	243
Ledbetter, Justin	FE	244
Ledbetter, Susan	FE	245

Name	Conference Relationship	Voting Number
Lenderman, James H.	FE	246
Letchworth, Tom M.	FE	247
Lewert, Donald	FE	248
Linam, Joe	RE	249
Lindsey, Lynn W.	RD	250
Livergood, Virginia	RE	251
Lizcano, Ramiro	FE	252
Long, Audie D.	FE	253
Long, Sam A.	RE	254
Ludwig, Randall D.	FE	255
Lynn, Jacob Steven	FE**	256
Lyon, Kevin	FE	257
Lyons, Robert L.	FE	258
MacMahon, Thomas	RE	259
Major, James E	RE	260
Marble, Robert K.	RE	261
Marsden, Vaughn	RE	262
Martin, Albert William	RE	263
Martin, Carlos	RE	264
Martineau, Larry W.	FE	265
Mathews, Edward	RE	266
Mattox, Michael	FE	267
McAdoo, Charlie E	RE	268
McClure, Lynn Ann Lewis	FE	269
McClurkin, Herschel H.	RE	270
McCormack, Deanna L.	FE	271
McCoy, George W.	FE	272
McDonald, John Mark	FE	273
McKay, James M.	RE	274
McKinnie, Richard D.	RE	275
Meadors, James	RE	276
Meadors, Samantha	FD**	277
Meeks, Gerald	RE	278
Miles II, John P.	FE	279
Miles, John P.	RE	280

Name	Conference Relationship	Voting Number
Miles, Rebekah Linn	FE	281
Miller-Yow, Ronnie L.	FE	282
Mitchell, Calvin	RE	283
Mitchell, Richard S.	FE	284
Monroe, Rhonda K. Crow	RE	285
Mooney, Von Dell	RE	286
Moore, David A.	FE	287
Moore, James Scott	FD	288
Moore, N. Robin	FE	289
Moore, Robert Louis	RE	290
Moore, Russell R.	FE	291
Moose, David	RE	292
Moreland, Earl Thomas	RE	293
Morey, Michael Cunning	FE	294
Morgan, Edna Mae	RE	295
Morris, Michelle	FE**	296
Mosby, Jimmy J.	FE	297
Moseley, David F.	FE	298
Moyer, Bonda Deere	FE	299
Mulkey, Louis M.	RE	300
Murphy, Louann Averitt	FE	301
Murray, Thompson	FE	302
Murray-Norman, Natasha Ja'Shun	FE	303
Murry, Charles F.	FE	304
Myane, Lee Benjamin	FE	305
Newberry, Ronnie	FE	306
Nichols, Joe Jerry	RE	307
Nicholson, Donald R.	RE	308
Nix, G Randall	RE	309
Nixon, Victor H.	RE	310
Nolley, Donald	RE	311
Norman, Mark K	FE	312
Odell, George Edwin	FE	313
Oliver, J. Lester	RD	314
Orr, David Paul	FE	315

Name	Conference Relationship	Voting Number
Ott, Larry D.	FE	316
Ownbey, Carl A.	FE	317
Pair, Sara Cole	FE	318
Pair, Shane D	FE	319
Palmer, Carl D.	FE	320
Palmer, John David	FE	321
Park, Bong Won	RE	322
Parlow, Robert Daniel	FE	323
Pearce, Katherine G	FE	324
Pearce, Larry Wesley	RE	325
Pearce, Mary Jane	FD	326
Perdue, J. Beth	FE	327
Perry, Loyd A.	RE	328
Peters, Muriel Holt	RE	329
Pettit, Dubois	RE	330
Pettus, Lester Glenn	FE	331
Phillips, Leslee Lynn	FE	332
Platt, Karl Dixon	FE**	333
Poarch, Steven M.	FE	334
Polk, James P.	FE	335
Posey, E. Lloyd	RE	336
Post, Lavon	FE	337
Powell, Larry D.	RE	338
Price, Belinda	FE	339
Prothro, David F.	RE	340
Pruett, Clarence Edward	FE	341
Pulliam, Steven K.	FE	342
Racop, Carr Dee	RE	343
Rainey, Allen	RE	344
Ratliff, Henry Andrew	FE	345
Reddin, Gordon Randall	RE	346
Reeves, William O.	FE	347
Rhoades, Thomas	FE	348
Richards, Walter David	RE	349
Richardson, Herschel Lee	FE	350

Name	Conference Relationship	Voting Number
Robbins, John C	FE	351
Roberts, Deidre Jo	FE	352
Roberts, Michael	FE	353
Roberts, William Zachary	FE	354
Robertson, Elizabeth Embrey	RE	355
Robinson, William H.	RE	356
Robnolt, Jim	RE	357
Rogers, Danny	RE	358
Rogers, J. M.	RE	359
Rook, George Edward	RE	360
Rowlan, Randy H.	FE	361
Rowland, James T.	RE	362
Ruehr, David Andrew	FE	363
Rush, Ryan	FE	364
Russell, Reginald	FE	365
Russell, Robert Craig	FE	366
Schaible, Jacob F.	RE	367
Scott, James B.	RE	368
Scott, James Robert	RE	369
Scott, Molly Davis	RE	370
Scroggin, David D.	RE	371
See, Lewis	FE	372
Sessions, Robert Paul	RE	373
Settle, Charles Thomas	RE	374
Shafer, John W	RE	375
Shafer, Scott Jackson	FE	376
Shownes, Wade	FE	377
Sigman, Charles	FE	378
Sims, Patricia N.	RE	379
Singh, Linda Sue	RE	380
Singleton Snyder, Betsy	FE	381
Skarda, Britt	FE	382
Smith, Darrell Van	RE	383
Smith, David A.	RE	384
Smith, Lloyd	RE	385

Name	Conference Relationship	Voting Number
Smith, Michael Andrew	FE	386
Smith, Roy Patterson	FE	387
Smith, Walter L.	FE	388
Spence, Dennis	FE	389
Spragg, Dawn	FD	390
Starnes, Rocky Earl	FE	391
Steele, David Randle	FE	392
Steele, Rodney G.	FE	393
Steele, William N.	FE	394
Steinegger, Jane	RD	395
Stokes, Denzel E.	RE	396
Strang, Paul	FE	397
Sudbrink, Janice	FD	398
Sullinger, Thomas	FE	399
Suffin, Jason	FE	400
Sutton, Michael	RE	401
Swift, David	RE	402
Tanner, George A.	RE	403
Tate, Billie Jean	RE	404
Taulbee, Todd-Paul R.	FE	405
Taylor, Martha S.	FD	406
Teague, Samuel	RE	407
Teeler, Garry Dean	FD	408
Teeler, Jimmy Keith	RE	409
Thomas, Melissa	FD	410
Thomason, Dana	RE	411
Thompson, Andrew C.	FE	412
Thompson, Charles T.	RE	413
Thompson, Davis E.	FE	414
Thompson, William J.	RE	415
Thresher, Jim	RE	416
Thueson, Daniel	FE**	417
Timmons, Brian	FE	418
Toombs, Thomas	FE	419
Topham, Michael Wayne	FE	420

Name	Conference Relationship	Voting Number
Turner, Fleming O.D.	RE	421
Turner, Julia Beth	RE	422
Underwood, William Zachary	FE	423
Van Hoose, Judith S.	FD	424
Van Meter, William Eric	FE	425
Vaughan, Carness	FE	426
Vaughan, Clefthon Samuel	FE	427
Waggoner, Stephen Ellis	FE	428
Wainscott, James	FE	429
Waldrup, Beth Ann	FE	430
Walker, John Franklin	RE	431
Walker, Robert Henry	FE	432
Walls, John E.	RE	433
Walthall, Charles	RE	434
Wanasek, Sandra	FD	435
Warner, Bennie	RE	436
Warren, Ellis Edward	RE	437
Warrick, Jeffery Trent	FE	438
Washington, Ulysses C	FE	439
Waters, Sherman	RE	440
Watkins, Beverly	RE	441
Watson, Brittany Stanton Richardson	FE	442
Watson, Kenneth E.	RE	443
Watt, Charles	RE	444
Waynick, Mark L.	FD	445
Webb, Gregory A	FE	446
Webb, Marilyn	RE	447
Weir, Thomas E.	RE	448
West, Jim	RE	449
Whitney, Guy M.	RE	450
Whitney, Judith J.	FE	451
Wiggins, Charles	RE	452
Wiggins, Kay S.	RD	453
Wilcher, John A.	FE	454
Wilkerson, Joseph F	RE	455

Name	Conference Relationship	Voting Number
Wilkie, Walter Michael	FE	456
Wilkins, Henry	FE	457
Williams, David S.	FE	458
Williams, George	RE	459
Williams, Heath	FE	460
Williams, Jeanne	FE	461
Williams, Keenan C.	RE	462
Williams, Larry R	RE	463
Williams, Powell G.	RE	464
Williams, Sam B.	RE	465
Williams, Vida R.	FE	466
Wilson, David B.	RE	467
Wilson, J. Leon	RE	468
Wilson, Jack A.	RE	469
Wilson, Therral E.	RE	470
Wingo, James Steve	FE	471
Wiseman, Rebecca Searcy	RE	472
Wyers, Edward	RE	473
Yokem, George Mackey	FE	474

\*\*Pending election by Clergy Session on Sunday, June 14, 2015

# Clergy Profiles

## *CLERGY* (alphabetical order)

7. **Allen, Maxine**, Central District
26. **Barron, Candace**, Central District
40. **Bodenhamer, Pat**, Northwest District
45. **Bradford, Blake**, Central District
58. **Bush, David**, Southeast District
125. **Douglas, Barbara**, Central District
138. **Embrey, John**, Southeast District
141. **Estes, Pamela**, Southeast District
149. **Ferris, Ann**, Northeast District
159. **Gage, Angie**, Northeast District
173. **Hager, Robert L.**, Northeast District
193. **Hilliard, J. Wesley**, Northwest District
215. **Johnson, Matthew**, Northeast District
237. **Kjorlaug, Andrew**, Central District
241. **Lasater, Blake**, Northwest District
267. **Mattox, Michael**, Southwest District
279. **Miles II, John P.**, Northeast District
281. **Miles, Rebekah**, Central District
312. **Norman, Mark**, Southeast District
342. **Pulliam, Steve**, Northwest District
351. **Robbins, John**, Northwest District
352. **Roberts, Deidre 'Dede'**, Central District
364. **Rush, Ryan**, Southeast District
400. **Sutfin, Jason**, Northeast District
442. **Watson, Brittany Richardson**, Central District
474. **Yokem, Mackey**, Central District



## ARUMC General and Jurisdictional Conference Self Nominations

**Name:** Maxine Allen

**Date:** April 15, 2015

**Email:** mallen@arumc.org

**Phone Number:** 501.539.0280

**Address:** 2912 Dorchester Drive City: Little Rock State: AR Zip Code: 72204



Please send this completed form, and a photo of yourself as a separate attachment, to [vicki.davis@arumc.org](mailto:vicki.davis@arumc.org) by **April 15, 2015**.

### Membership:

**Clergy** (*Clergy Member in Full Connection - Para. 35, 2012 Book of Discipline.*)

**Lay** (*A professing member of the United Methodist Church for at least two years preceding their election; and an active participant in the United Methodist Church for at least four years preceding their election; and a member of a church within the Arkansas Annual Conference - Para. 36, 2012 Book of Discipline. Lay delegates need not be voting members of the Annual Conference to be elected.*)

### District:

Please select your district. Central District

### Church:

What is your local church? Arkansas Conference Staff

### Commitment as a Delegate and Christian Conferencing Guidelines:

**I have read and accept the [Christian Conferencing Guidelines](#).**

Yes

No

### Share your reasons for wanting to be a delegate.

*Please limit to 150 words.*



I believe that as a global 21st century Church we must meet the demands of technology, ecology, and economy with a renewed sense of hope. We must innovate and be the creative faith response in a world that is hurting and in need of the Holy Spirit. The United Methodist Church is uniquely qualified to provide a clarion call to love God and love neighbor. I believe that I have been called to facilitate "God's kingdom to come on earth as in heaven". One of the ways to do this is through representing Arkansas in the General and Jurisdictional Conference as a voice of reason steeped in the Wesleyan Evangelical Tradition; yet understanding that we must "serve the present age" through that calling. Since I was a child in Confirmation, then as an adult working in corporate America and serving in my local church as Administrative Council Chair, and finally as clergy, I have come to appreciate the diversity that The United Methodist Church brings to ecumenical and interfaith understanding. I want to be a part of broadening those understandings.

**What leadership experiences have you had in the church or community that will help you do the work of the delegation?**

*Please limit to 150 words.*

I have taught at both Mission U (School of Mission) and Course of Study wherein I have been able to interact with both laity and clergy. I have served the Arkansas Conference Board of Ordained Ministry as the Vocation and Discernment Coordinator; Arkansas Judicial Discipline and Disability Commission (hears complaints on judges, appointed by Governor Beebe); the National Secretary of the Black Clergywomen of The United Methodist Church; the Arkansas Women's Project Leadership Team; Vice Chairperson of the Little Rock Christian Ministerial Alliance, and was recently named to the Gammon Seminary Board of Trustees. I have served in the local church, on the college campus as a Wesley Foundation director, and currently serve as the Assistant Director of Mission and Ministry for Mission Field Engagement.

**Share three (3) areas crucial to The United Methodist Church's mission to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world:**

*Please limit to 150 words.*

- 1) Identification and nurture of laity and clergy leadership for service through The United Methodist Church.
- 2) Strengthening the unity of the global United Methodist Church through focusing on our main mission without apology: making disciples for the transformation of the world.
- 3) Enabling and supporting each congregation and campus ministry to make an impact where they are planted

**What are three (3) issues emerging from those areas you stated above:**

*Please limit to 150 words.*

disciples: making disciples

- 1) **Leadership Development:** Helping congregations to understand that they **ARE** the place where leadership begins and is enhanced through providing places where persons can actualize their gifts and graces.
- 2) **Global understanding:** Creating small group networks of persons, who without regard to status, are able to reach across barriers to assist persons globally in their understanding of the Great Commission which Wesley phrased as "the world is our parish."
- 3) **Nimble responses to need:** Encouraging creativity and flexibility of response to immediate needs in a community where people can "find a need and fill it; see a hurt and heal it".

## ARUMC General and Jurisdictional Conference Self Nom

**Name: Dr. Candace Barron**

**Date: 1/27/2015**

**Email: [candace.barron@arumc.org](mailto:candace.barron@arumc.org)**

**Phone Number: 5012517492**

**Address: 610 Pine Valley Rd City: Little Rock State: AR Zip Code: 72207**



**Please send this completed form, and a photo of yourself as a separate attachment, to [vicki.davis@arumc.org](mailto:vicki.davis@arumc.org) by March 15, 2015.**

### Membership:

**Clergy** (*Clergy Member in Full Connection - Para. 35, 2012 Book of Discipline.*)

**Lay** (*A professing member of the United Methodist Church for at least two years preceding their election; and an active participant in the United Methodist Church for at least four years preceding their election; and a member of a church within the Arkansas Annual Conference - Para. 36, 2012 Book of Discipline. Lay delegates need not be voting members of the Annual Conference to be elected.*)

### District:

Please select your district. Central District

### Church:

What is your local church? First UMC-Little Rock

### Commitment as a Delegate and Christian Conferencing Guidelines:

**I have read and accept the [Christian Conferencing Guidelines](#).**

Yes

No

### Share your reasons for wanting to be a delegate.

I want to make a difference in our church. In my work and ministry, my Hispanic heritage has helped me see a number of issues from more than one perspective. I have not been a cradle Christian, either (I embraced the faith at age 34), so I can identify with the viewpoints of the unchurched, as well as the people the Pew Research Center refers to as "Nones." I believe that my ability to see different perspectives and a willingness to engage with people of different backgrounds is vital to our church moving forward.

*Please limit to 150 words.*



**What leadership experiences have you had in the church or community that will help you do the work of the delegation?**

I have a doctorate in pastoral leadership and have worked in the community as an advocate for Hispanic immigration justice issues with Justice for our Neighbors (JFON). I serve on the board of the Interfaith Alliance of Arkansas and am involved with advocating for the underprivileged and underserved in our nation. I have been on the conference leadership team working with small churches for two years, and previously served on the Central District Leadership Team for several years. I travel the state listening to the issues and concerns of congregations throughout the conference and helping them have a greater impact their mission fields.

*Please limit to 150 words.*

**Share three (3) areas crucial to The United Methodist Church's mission to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world:**

Spiritual vitality must be ignited for our congregations to feel the Holy Spirit moving in their personal lives and to have the willingness to engage with people who feel they have no need for the church or are frightened or hurt by the church.

Mission field engagement is vital for reaching the unchurched in our own backyards. We have become so used to the status quo that it takes intentionality to see the Nones (people who have no connection to a church) in our everyday interactions.

Ethnic engagement will continue to be of primary importance in our nation as diversity becomes the norm. We cannot continue as we have been if we want to answer the commandment laid upon us by Jesus Christ in Matthew 28: "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit."

*Please limit to 150 words.*

**What are three (3) issues emerging from those areas you stated above:**

Teaching clergy and congregations on mission field engagement is vital to the United Methodist Church. People are not just going to show up at our doors anymore. We have to be out in the neighborhoods making connections with the people. This will include learning how to communicate with people from different and diverse backgrounds, and will not happen until people have a fire in their hearts for Jesus Christ and see the value of our Wesleyan roots.

Ethnic justice issues need to be addressed from our pulpits and supported by our policies throughout the church if we hope to impact the "Nones" on a deeper level. We cannot rely upon culture to drive people to our doors.

Spiritual vitality is a difficult issue facing the world, especially the western world. It can be best addressed through a return to prayer, fasting and the spiritual disciplines that form our Wesleyan roots.

*Please limit to 150 words.*

## ARUMC General and Jurisdictional Conference

**Name:** Pat Bodenhamer

**Date:** 4/15/15

**Email:** pat.bodenhamer@arumc.org or pdb0615@yahoo.com

**Phone Number:** 501-749-5118

**Address:** POB 1436 City: Diamond City State: AR Zip Code: 72630

Please send this completed form, and a photo of yourself as a separate attachment, to [vicki.davis@arumc.org](mailto:vicki.davis@arumc.org) by **April 15, 2015**.



### Membership:

**Clergy** (*Clergy Member in Full Connection - Para. 35, 2012 Book of Discipline.*)

**Lay** (*A professing member of the United Methodist Church for at least two years preceding their election; and an active participant in the United Methodist Church for at least four years preceding their election; and a member of a church within the Arkansas Annual Conference - Para. 36, 2012 Book of Discipline. Lay delegates need not be voting members of the Annual Conference to be elected.*)

### District:

Please select your district. Northwest District

### Church:

What is your local church? Diamond City & Omaha United Methodist Churches

### Commitment as a Delegate and Christian Conferencing Guidelines:

**I have read and accept the [Christian Conferencing Guidelines](#).**

Yes

No

### Share your reasons for wanting to be a delegate.

I love our church. We have an awesome story to tell, but too many times the story gets lost. I want to be a delegate because I believe in our story. I believe the UMC can make a difference in the world and in the lives of people. I have watched churches turn inward and we can do better. I want to be a part of the process that is not afraid to dive in head first to continue our story for years to come. I want to help make a difference.

*Please limit to 150 words.*





**What leadership experiences have you had in the church or community that will help you do the work of the delegation?**

I have been active in the church my entire life. I was active in my local church, DCYM, CCYM and Wesley Foundation Ministry. I served as the ASU Wesley Foundation Intern, Assistant Director, & Director of Delta Pride Camp. I have served on the United Methodist Publishing House Board of Directors, Conference Board of Higher Education, Conference Board of Outdoor Ministry, Chair of Board of Global Ministries, Co-chair Hunger Task Force, District Board of Building and Location, District Committee on Ministry, Board Member of JFON and UAM Wesley Board Member. I was the Conference Minister of Mission and Outreach. I was very active with VIM and UMCOR. I also worked with Arkansas Advocates for Children and Families where I lobbied for children and families on the state and federal level. I have taught at Local Pastors License School, Lay Servant School, Course of Study and helped organize the residential COS at Mt. Sequoyah sponsored by the SCJ College of Bishops. I also serve as a Circuit Elder.

*Please limit to 150 words.*

**Share three (3) areas crucial to The United Methodist Church's mission to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world:**

1. Reaching out to the least, the last and the lost. Our world is hurting. We need to renew our focus on missions and evangelism.
2. Recognize, Appreciate and Learn from our global churches. The churches in Africa are experiencing "revival" and we could learn a lot from their spirit.
3. Focus on how to support clergy to be effective, passionate, spiritual and accountable leaders.

*Please limit to 150 words.*

**What are three (3) issues emerging from those areas you stated above:**

1. Reaching out to the least, the last and the lost. It's an old concept but always emerging into new ministries, new disciples for Jesus Christ and new hope for our hurting world. How can our church truly make a difference in the lives of those who are struggling? What ways can we be active in our love to our neighbors?
2. We are the body of Christ and we could learn so much from our global churches. How can we move from a self serving church to a God-centered church? How can we help the church move from inward focused to outward focused?
3. Our clergy are struggling. We need to find new and innovative ways to train and support clergy throughout our church. We need strong leaders who are not afraid to be held accountable for their actions. We need leaders who believe in the United Methodist Church and support our Discipline. We need to recapture our Wesleyan heritage as a means to support and train our clergy. We need our lay speakers, local pastors, provisional members, retirees, deacons and elders- all our important. How can foster a system that supports all kinds of churches, pastors and callings?

*Please limit to 150 words.*

## ARUMC General and Jurisdictional Conference Self Nomination Form

**Name:** Blake Bradford

**Date:** 4.14.15

**Email:** [blake.bradford@arumc.org](mailto:blake.bradford@arumc.org)

**Phone Number:** 501.615.4478

**Address:** 9922 Echo Valley Ct. **City:** Little Rock **State:** AR **Zip Code:** 72227

Please send this completed form, and a photo of yourself as a separate attachment to [vicki.davis@arumc.org](mailto:vicki.davis@arumc.org) by **April 15, 2015**.



**Membership:**

**Clergy** (*Clergy Member in Full Connection - Para. 35, 2012 Book of Discipline.*)

**Lay** (*A professing member of the United Methodist Church for at least two years preceding their election; and an active participant in the United Methodist Church for at least four years preceding their election; and a member of a church within the Arkansas Annual Conference - Para. 36, 2012 Book of Discipline. Lay delegates need not be voting members of the Annual Conference to be elected.*)

**District:**

Please select your district. Central District

**Church:**

What is your local church? St. James UMC, Little Rock

**Commitment as a Delegate and Christian Conferencing Guidelines:**

**I have read and accept the [Christian Conferencing Guidelines](#).**

Yes

No

**Share your reasons for wanting to be a delegate.**

I would like to serve on the ARUMC delegation because I believe that it is an act of ministry and love for the UMC – the church that guided me to discover Jesus in my own life. I care deeply for our denomination’s sustainability in today’s world, and believe the work of GC can positively impact and strengthen the ministry of local churches. I have a heart for the United Methodist connection, and my work in parish ministry and for the conference has encouraged me to consider ministry and church structure issues from a variety of perspectives. I would like to give back to the church which has journeyed with me in the transformation of my own life.

*Please limit to 150 words.*



**What leadership experiences have you had in the church or community that will help you do the work of the delegation?**

17 years in local church ministry: I have pastored in churches of different sizes and mission field contexts as associate, executive pastor, and solo/senior pastor, and I look forward to my new role of resourcing and equipping clergy and congregations state-wide through the Center for Vitality. For the last 10 years, I have served on the BOM, with the last several years as a member of the BOM executive committee and directing the Residency In Ministry Program. I have taught pastoral leadership and administration at the Course of Study School, and I have been a member of conference COSROW and Church & Society along with district dCOMs and superintendency committees. I have also served on the board of Connected In Christ. My doctoral degree in parish leadership from SMU focused on the work of General Conference ministry commissions and the formation of clergy in the UMC.

*Please limit to 150 words.*

**Share three (3) areas crucial to The United Methodist Church's mission to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world:**

- 1) Maintaining the unity of the UMC as a denomination called by God to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of lives and the world.
- 2) Clergy Leadership: how we recruit, credential, develop, and deploy clergy as servant leaders
- 3) Realign financial resources and personnel at the General Church level to support vital congregations, and create flexibility in the Discipline that encourages Bishops, Cabinets, and local congregations to creatively address mission field needs in varied contexts.

*Please limit to 150 words.*

**What are three (3) issues emerging from those areas you stated above:**

Unity: The recent work towards a Global or General Discipline and multiple Central Conference Disciplines (including a US decisionmaking body) is one way to address multiple structural problems in our current system. We as a denomination also will need to find a path beyond our quadrennial fights so we can, together, rededicate ourselves to our mission of making, nurturing, and sending disciples.

Clergy Leadership: The old "pipeline" for clergy is no more, and the development (& deployment) of clergy will become much more complex because of multiple pathways of formation and because fruitful 21st Century clergy must have the capacity to transform faith communities.

Vital Congregations: In addition to the General Conference budgeting resources so congregations can focus on the vital ministry needs of their mission fields, the Discipline should encourage missional partnerships, multi-site ministries, and alternative governance structures for congregations of different sizes that meet the needs of diverse ministry contexts.

*Please limit to 150 words.*



## ARUMC General and Jurisdictional Conference Self Nomination Form

**Name:** David W. Bush

**Date:** April 13, 2015

**Email:** [thepastor@stuttgartfumc.org](mailto:thepastor@stuttgartfumc.org)

**Phone Number:** 870-830-7777

**Address:** 1918 McCracken Street City: Stuttgart State: Arkansas Zip Code: 72160

Please send this completed form, and a photo of yourself as a separate attachment, to [vicki.davis@arumc.org](mailto:vicki.davis@arumc.org) by April 15, 2015.



### Membership:

**Clergy** (*Clergy Member in Full Connection - Para. 35, 2012 Book of Discipline.*)

**Lay** (*A professing member of the United Methodist Church for at least two years preceding their election; and an active participant in the United Methodist Church for at least four years preceding their election; and a member of a church within the Arkansas Annual Conference - Para. 36, 2012 Book of Discipline. Lay delegates need not be voting members of the Annual Conference to be elected.*)

### District:

Please select your district. Southeast District

### Church:

What is your local church? First United Methodist - Stuttgart

### Commitment as a Delegate and Christian Conferencing Guidelines:

**I have read and accept the [Christian Conferencing Guidelines](#).**

Yes

No

### Share your reasons for wanting to be a delegate.

I feel called to be a delegate. The responsibility of such service requires a major commitment of time, hard work and prayer. For me, it would be much easier to simply concentrate on leading and serving First United Methodist Stuttgart. But after much prayer and deliberation, to serve again is what I sense God is calling me to do. For me, that means offering myself as a candidate to the 2016 Jurisdictional and General Conference.

*Please limit to 150 words.*



**What leadership experiences have you had in the church or community that will help you do the work of the delegation?**

I was honored to serve on the delegation in 2004, 2008 and 2012. Participating as a member of our delegation reaffirmed for me my absolute commitment to serve God and do His will through United Methodism. Delegates to Jurisdictional and General Conference should be people who are servant leaders willing to ask, "What is God's will on this issue? What is best for the Church? Throughout my ministry, serving God and doing His will has been my passion even when it requires taking a strong stand on controversial issues. One of the most controversial issues to be voted on at the 2016 Conference is ordination. As an elected representative of our conference, I will vote to affirm the Discipline's present wording as it relates to ordination and marriage.

*Please limit to 150 words.*

**Share three (3) areas crucial to The United Methodist Church's mission to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world:**

1) Evangelism.....2) Evangelism.....3)Evangelism ...We must keep "the main thing, the main thing!" I rejoice in that The United Methodist Church is growing on a global basis. We must rediscover the need of evangelism in America, to reach out and make friends and build relationships with those who live in our communities. I am blessed to serve a congregation that is reaching the mission field of Arkansas County. We are growing in making disciples by loving our neighbors and offering them Jesus. Bishop Mueller is serious when he says we need "Revival!" In America The United Methodist Church must refocus on our wonderful Wesleyan Theology and "Offer Christ!"

*Please limit to 150 words.*

**What are three (3) issues emerging from those areas you stated above:**

Though we face significant challenges as a denomination, I am hopeful about the future of The United Methodist Church. We must reclaim our identity as a vital Wesleyan movement and reach a new generation of people who in return reach another generation for Christ. Six years ago I moved to Stuttgart and we were an older congregation that felt the need to reach out to the community. Today we are a renewed and vital growing younger congregation. Kids, youth and young adults are everywhere in our congregation! Evangelism does have an impact and is the key to growth. Let us love Jesus and reach our mission field. I invite questions concerning my stand on any issue that may come before the conference. Thank you for your prayerful consideration of my candidacy.

*Please limit to 150 words.*

**ARUMC General and Jurisdictional Conference**

**Name:** Barbara A. Douglas

**Date:** March 6, 2015

**Email:** pastor.douglas@att.net

**Phone Number:** 501-343-5702



**Address:** 4801 Rightsell Road City: Little Rock State: AR Zip Code: 72223

Please send this completed form, and a photo of yourself as a separate attachment, to [vicki.davis@arumc.org](mailto:vicki.davis@arumc.org) by **April 15, 2015**.

**Membership:**

**Clergy** (Clergy Membership in Full Connection - Para. 35, 2012 Book of Discipline.)

**Lay** (A professing member of the United Methodist Church for at least two years preceding their election; and an active participant in the United Methodist Church for at least four years preceding their election; and a member of a church within the Arkansas Annual Conference - Para. 36, 2012 Book of Discipline. Lay delegates need not be voting members of the Annual Conference to be elected.)

**District:**

Please select your district. Southeast District

**Church:**

What is your local church? St. Luke United Methodist Church

**Commitment as a Delegate and Christian Conferencing Guidelines:**

**I have read and accept the Christian Conferencing Guidelines.**

Yes

No

**Share your reasons for wanting to be a delegate.**

I desire to be a delegate because I feel that I would be on the ground floor of helping to develop and implement policies for the United Methodist Church. Since 1999, I have gained experience on what is needed to build a vital congregation spiritually and structurally. As an elder serving the Southeast District in the Arkansas Conference, I feel I would be a good representative to voice the concerns and needs of the clergy and laity from the Arkansas area. I have served as a senior pastor of a predominately black congregation, chaplain of a four year college and now I am the senior pastor of a diverse congregation in Pine Bluff, Arkansas.

*Please limit to 150 words.*



**What leadership experiences have you had in the church or community that will help you do the work of the delegation?**

I have served as a Jurisdictional Delegate, Status and Role of Women, own and operate as Chief Executive Officer of Velvatex College and Style Crest Beauty Salon, appointed by the Little Rock Mayor to LR Steering Committee; pass President of Neighborhood Coalition, 2000 Arkansas Small Business Recipient of the year, graduate of Chamber of Little Rock Leadership Class, former president of Black Methodist for Church Renewal, member of Pine Bluff Neighborhood Watch and graduate of PB Citizen Police Academy.

*Please limit to 150 words.*

**Share three (3) areas crucial to The United Methodist Church's mission to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world:**

1. Create vital spiritual growth that engages in long-term relationship and commitment to Jesus Christ and United Methodist Church.
2. Intentionally create space and equip youth and young adults to commit their lives to Jesus Christ through prayer, bible study, baptism, and profess the Christian faith for spiritual growth for Kingdom of God.
3. Equip leaders to offer faith and hope to our local and global community through spiritual holiness, while seeking justice and engaging in compassionate care for the hungry, strangers, and oppressed by implementing social structures that are consistent with the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

*Please limit to 150 words.*

**What are three (3) issues emerging from those areas you stated above:**

1. Teaching and recruiting individuals and the congregation to reflect the diverse community by building relationships and partnerships with community leaders, businesses, organizations, and other churches.
2. Leading the congregation to affirm and/or reaffirm their commitment to Jesus Christ by providing classes on confirming their faith.
3. Leading the church to serve the sick, feed the hungry, welcome the stranger by opening our doors to the unreached by showing compassion, care, and providing structure and resources for the needy.

*Please limit to 150 words.*

**ARUMC General and Jurisdictional Conference Self Nomination Form**

**Name:** John Embrey

**Date:** 4-15-2015

**Email:** john.embrey@arumc.org

**Phone Number:** (870)942-4127

**Address:** PO Box 357 City: Sheridan State: AR Zip Code: 72150

**Please send this completed form, and a photo of yourself as a separate attachment to [vicki.davis@arumc.org](mailto:vicki.davis@arumc.org) by April 15, 2015.**



**Membership:**

**Clergy** (*Clergy Member in Full Connection - Para. 35, 2012 Book of Discipline.*)

**Lay** (*A professing member of the United Methodist Church for at least two years preceding their election; and an active participant in the United Methodist Church for at least four years preceding their election; and a member of a church within the Arkansas Annual Conference - Para. 36, 2012 Book of Discipline. Lay delegates need not be voting members of the Annual Conference to be elected.*)

**District:**

Please select your district. Southeast District

**Church:**

What is your local church? Sheridan First United Methodist Church

**Commitment as a Delegate and Christian Conferencing Guidelines:**

**I have read and accept the [Christian Conferencing Guidelines](#).**

Yes

No

**Share your reasons for wanting to be a delegate.**

*Please limit to 150 words.*





The United Methodist Church is my home. It is the Church that I was baptized in as an infant, and the Church that I first experienced the love and forgiveness of Jesus Christ which led to my profession of faith. It is the Church that acknowledged my call to ministry, enabled me to fulfill that call, and continues to share with me opportunities to be in servant ministry. I am blessed to serve as a United Methodist pastor in the Arkansas Annual Conference, and I would like to serve as a delegate for the purpose of giving back to the Church that has been so instrumental in helping me to become who I am. I also feel called to serve as a delegate for the purpose of working to sustain the future of the United Methodist Church so it can continue to make a difference in the lives of others.

**What leadership experiences have you had in the church or community that will help you do the work of the delegation?**

*Please limit to 150 words.*

I have served on the faculty of Local Pastor’s Licensing School since 2008 and on the Conference Board of Ordained Ministry’s Executive Committee since 2011 as the Chair of Ministerial Assessment. I have served as a Circuit Elder since the beginning of the program. These experiences along with my appointments have opened my understanding to the concerns of both Ordained and Licensed clergy, as well as small and large churches, and our continued need to work together. Last year working with other pastors in my community’s Ministerial Alliance I helped to create the first Summer Feeding Program in our county, and of its type. Due to my ability and willingness to work with community leaders and pastors from other denominations I was elected to serve as the president of this alliance to help stabilize this program for the future, and to increase the number of sites offered and children served.

**Share three (3) areas crucial to The United Methodist Church's mission to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world:**

*Please limit to 150 words.*

1. Total Spiritual Revival: To focus on the spiritual revival (by focusing on the Wesleyan way of Salvation) of our local congregations that they might be empowered by the Holy Spirit to seek new ways to reach out into the communities that they serve.
2. Outreach and Evangelism: To continue to equip the laity of our congregations that they might feel confident in their own ability to be in ministry to the world.
3. Young People: To make a difference in the life of the children, youth, and young adults that we serve that through discipling programs they may respond to God’s call in their life, and to be active in their faith whether they seek ordination as clergy or serve as active lay members of their local church.

**What are three (3) issues emerging from those areas you stated above:**

*Please limit to 150 words.*

1. The Wesleyan Way of Salvation includes both Works of Piety and Acts of Mercy. This is the strength of our tradition! However, as individual churches we sometimes tend to focus on one of these aspects over the other. True spiritual revival requires us to make both of these an important part of all we do.
2. Every Christian is a Minister, yet we tend to focus on the ministry of the Ordained as primary over the ministry of the laity. The potential for our churches to grow and experience revival resides within the faithfulness of the laity and within our ability to empower them to ministries that they are called to lead.
3. If current research is correct and we begin to lose our children by the second grade, it is imperative that more local congregations be equipped, through ministries, programs, and curriculum to reach these age groups.

**ARUMC General and Jurisdictional Conference**

**Name:** Pamela Jean Estes, M.Div, STM, MLS, MME

**Date:** April 15, 2015

**Email:** pam.estes@arumc.org

**Phone Number:** 870-534-6241

**Address:** 1500 South Olive City: Pine Bluff State: AR Zip Code: 71601



Please send this completed form, and a photo of yourself as a separate attachment, to [vicki.davis@arumc.org](mailto:vicki.davis@arumc.org) by **March 15, 2015**.

**Membership:**

**Clergy** (*Clergy Member in Full Connection - Para. 35, 2012 Book of Discipline.*)

**Lay** (*A professing member of the United Methodist Church for at least two years preceding their election; and an active participant in the United Methodist Church for at least four years preceding their election; and a member of a church within the Arkansas Annual Conference - Para. 36, 2012 Book of Discipline. Lay delegates need not be voting members of the Annual Conference to be elected.*)

**District:**

Please select your district. Southeast District

**Church:**

What is your local church? Lakeside, Pine Bluff

**Commitment as a Delegate and Christian Conferencing Guidelines:**

**I have read and accept the [Christian Conferencing Guidelines](#).**

Yes

No

**Share your reasons for wanting to be a delegate.**

Priviledged to have attended the last two general and jurisdictional conferences as an alternate, I feel that I could contribute to the work of the delegation as a person fully aware of the requirements of spiritual strength, physical endurance, and the utmost trust and faith in God. God's future is one which shall surely surprise us yet we are confident that God's future shall be one which completes the promises of Jesus Christ. I would like to represent Arkansas because I believe that I can be faithful to Christ in all deliberations and open to the movement of the Holy Spirit as we do the important work of the respective conferences. I have served in small, medium, and large congregations in all of the state except the NW and so feel well acquainted with diversity of our church.

*Please limit to 150 words.*

**What leadership experiences have you had in the church or community that will help you do the work of the delegation?**

*Please limit to 150 words.*





I have participated at all levels of our church--active local congregational membership, teaching Sunday School, singing in the choir; districts, conferences (Little Rock, North Arkansas, and AR)--as a member of boards/committees/task forces re: older adults, singles, teens in crisis, COSROW, United Methodist Women, School of Christian Mission/mission u, building and locations, Pensions, Ordained Ministry, Council on Ministry/Leadership Team. I've been chair, vice-chair, secretary and an active member. Representing AR as the leader of the delegation to the President's conference on libraries in 1991, I worked on a diverse team. I served on an international committee of the PEO Sisterhood. I served on FOCAL board, (Friends of the Central Ar Libraries), the Blytheville Chamber of Commerce. Active in Rotary, Delta Kappa Gamma, Hendrix Board of Trustees, and the United Methodist Foundation of Arkansas. All of these require collaborative, creative, and diligent work. Participation in all of the work of the general and jurisdictional conferences requires the ability to read and think clearly, to listen well to others and particularly to the guidance of the Holy Spirit. Since Palm Sunday 1982, I have been a committed United Methodist Christian-evangelical and feminist.

**Share three (3) areas crucial to The United Methodist Church's mission to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world:**

*Please limit to 150 words.*

An informed, enthusiastic evangelism to all people which arises from spiritually mature disciples  
Generous and consistent service at the grassroots to all people, especially the poor, children, and women  
Appropriate attention to systemic issues which affect the world's experience of injustice

**What are three (3) issues emerging from those areas you stated above:**

*Please limit to 150 words.*

Evangelism requires us to address hermeneutical issues of understanding our Savior and the Bible. We must rekindle the flame within us. Study the Bible with curious expectation. Apply the Bible with confident hope.  
We must analyze the ways we can truly help in ministries with the poor so that the Gospel is communicated as well as material needs met. In order to feed the hungry, heal the sick, comfort the lonely, rehabilitate the prisoners, aid the victims, we must understand the root causes leading to bodily and spiritual needs. We must be willing to work for change in secular structures because of our theological beliefs.  
Thus, the issues intertwine: evangelism leads us to the world where we see needs we can alleviate through missions of the church. Social justice moves us to help right the wrongs so that evangelism can speak the full Good News. And, in order to accomplish any of this, we must remember that we are heirs of Christ living in God's kingdom where our allegiance is. We need to refocus on being the disciples who can more deeply walk with Jesus Christ in fruitful faithful do the work God has for us, here and now.

## ARUMC General and Jurisdictional Conference Self Nomination Form

Name: Ann Ferris

Date: 15 April, 2015

Email: [Ann.Ferris@arumc.org](mailto:Ann.Ferris@arumc.org)

Phone Number: 870-631-2952

Address: 612 Pine Street City: Corning State: AR Zip Code: 72422

Please send this completed form, and a photo of yourself as a separate attachment to [vicki.davis@arumc.org](mailto:vicki.davis@arumc.org) by April 15, 2015.



### Membership:

**Clergy** (*Clergy Member in Full Connection - Para. 35, 2012 Book of Discipline.*)

**Lay** (*A professing member of the United Methodist Church for at least two years preceding their election; and an active participant in the United Methodist Church for at least four years preceding their election; and a member of a church within the Arkansas Annual Conference - Para. 36, 2012 Book of Discipline. Lay delegates need not be voting members of the Annual Conference to be elected.*)

### District:

Please select your district. Northeast District

### Church:

What is your local church? Corning FUMC

### Commitment as a Delegate and Christian Conferencing Guidelines:

**I have read and accept the [Christian Conferencing Guidelines](#).**

Yes

No

### Share your reasons for wanting to be a delegate.

It took me twenty-nine years of regular church attendance before, "my heart was strangely warmed." After that I became passionate about helping church members experience spiritual revival. Since then my focus has broadened to include people outside as well as inside the church community. I believe the heart of our denomination needs to be "strangely warmed" so we refocus our energies on sharing the good news of Jesus Christ in our hurting world. Until we do this we will continue to decline. I love the United Methodist Church and want to be a delegate to help our denomination get back on track.

*Please limit to 150 words.*



**What leadership experiences have you had in the church or community that will help you do the work of the delegation?**

My experience pastoring small and struggling churches in inner city Little Rock and the rural Corning has brought me up close and personal to the day to day effects of poverty on people's lives. As an effective circuit elder I have worked closely with several small churches in Clay county. I also have extensive experience ministering to individuals with developmental and physical disabilities. I hope to bring balance to the delegation by representing small churches and individuals who are often overlooked, but who are just the kind of people with whom Jesus spent his time. I represent small churches on the Arkansas Conference Council for Finance and Administration. In Corning I have chaired the Ministerial Alliance. I have served as the Spiritual Director on a Walk to Emmaus.

*Please limit to 150 words.*

**Share three (3) areas crucial to The United Methodist Church's mission to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world:**

Spiritual vitality and a passion to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world throughout our denomination from the most powerful agency down to the smallest of our churches. Effective missions in the name of Jesus Christ.  
An appropriate balance of grace and truth in which we extend God's grace to everyone while holding fast to the truth. Absolutely everyone needs to be welcomed and loved as a child of God, but we need to be clear that not every behavior is godly. While leaving the judgement to God, we must not affirm behaviors that appear to be contrary to God's way as prayerfully determined primarily by searching scripture, but also informed by tradition, reason and experience.

*Please limit to 150 words.*

**What are three (3) issues emerging from those areas you stated above:**

The church in the United States needs to listen to and learn from the church in Africa and other parts of the world where our denomination is growing. How can we all become the passionate, Spirit-filled body of Christ?  
It is good in the short-term to give food to people who are starving, but we must also address the spiritual, physical and political reasons why they are starving.  
Ministry happens in the local churches. How can we put our denominational resources into equipping our members to develop a deep personal relationship with Jesus Christ, and teach them how to prayerfully apply scripture, tradition, reason and experience to search out real truth? After much prayer and searching I am convinced that the Discipline's current stance on marriage and ordination should remain unchanged. We should focus on helping people develop strong, godly, heterosexual marriages.

*Please limit to 150 words.*

**ARUMC General and Jurisdictional Conference Self N**

**Name:** Angie Gage

**Date:** April 14, 2015

**Email:** [angie.gage@arumc.org](mailto:angie.gage@arumc.org)

**Phone Number:** 870-897-4962

**Address:** 2 N. Lakeshore Pt. **City:** Cherokee Village **State:** AR **Zip Code:** 72529

Please send this completed form, and a photo of yourself as a separate attachment, to [vicki.davis@arumc.org](mailto:vicki.davis@arumc.org) by **April 15, 2015**.



**Membership:**

**Clergy** (*Clergy Member in Full Connection - Para. 35, 2012 Book of Discipline.*)

**Lay** (*A professing member of the United Methodist Church for at least two years preceding their election; and an active participant in the United Methodist Church for at least four years preceding their election; and a member of a church within the Arkansas Annual Conference - Para. 36, 2012 Book of Discipline. Lay delegates need not be voting members of the Annual Conference to be elected.*)

**District:**

Please select your district. Northeast District

**Church:**

What is your local church? Cherokee Village United Methodist Church

**Commitment as a Delegate and Christian Conferencing Guidelines:**

**I have read and accept the [Christian Conferencing Guidelines](#).**

Yes

No

**Share your reasons for wanting to be a delegate.**

I have been a United Methodist my entire life. Throughout my childhood, as a child of a Navy officer, I was able to be involved in many United Methodist Churches of varying sizes and ethnicities. For many years, I have felt called to be a delegate to General Conference but knew that I would need to be able to commit time for prayers and presence for all that it needs. Through prayerful discernment, I feel that it is time. I embrace who we are as United Methodist. I have the support of my congregation to pursue this calling in the life of our United Methodist way. Being a delegate is another way to serve our connection as we seek to do God's work in the world.

*Please limit to 150 words.*



**What leadership experiences have you had in the church or community that will help you do the work of the delegation?**

I have served the United Methodist church as both laity and clergy. As laity, I served on local church and conference committees, and worked in both children and youth ministries on church staff. As clergy, I have served in four congregations as a pastor. I have also been involved on district and conference committees, and still serve on both levels. I currently am serving as the chair of the Northeast District Leadership Team. I also have been the president of two different Ministerial Alliances, and as treasurer in a third. I am currently the vice president of a civic organization as well. I am accustomed to working within the diversity of the church and the community. As a delegate, I would work within the diversity of the General Conference and seek God's discernment in all matters.

*Please limit to 150 words.*

**Share three (3) areas crucial to The United Methodist Church's mission to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world:**

(1) Evangelism - Often congregations are inward focused, worrying about survival instead of discipleship and transformation. Evangelism is critical to making disciples for the transformation of the world. We must find new ways to reach people and introduce them to the grace of Christ. (2) Outreach/Mission - We must get outside of our walls and fulfill our calling from Christ. We have a world that is plagued by poverty, hunger, loneliness, and more. If we become the church that we are called to be, then we will transform the world and touch lives in ways that fulfill our calling. We must realize that our mission field is beyond the local church. (3) Unity - We have much discussion going on about division and should talk about maintaining unity within our denomination. We must find ways to maintain our integrity, remaining unified. Division hurts people. Unity expresses love.

*Please limit to 150 words.*

**What are three (3) issues emerging from those areas you stated above:**

(1) Unless we begin to share Christ in ways that reach those who have little or no connection to a life of faith, we will continue to see decline in Christianity overall. Evangelism has to change with the missional communities where we are actively engaged. Evangelism focused on grace, love and acceptance of wherever the person is in their life is what we need. (2) Outreach/Mission has fallen by the wayside. Getting outside of our walls and serving Christ by working with those on the fringes empowers the work of God in our communities and the world. It helps people to become more engaged in their communities and with people. (3) We have to find ways to begin to work with others who are different than ourselves. Through the discernment of the General Conference, I believe that we can have Holy Conferencing about unity and love.

*Please limit to 150 words.*



**ARUMC General and Jurisdictional Conference Self Nomination Form**

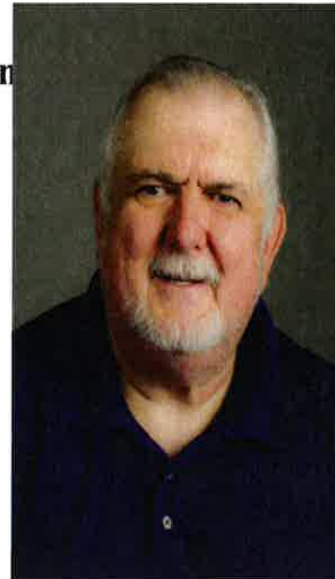
**Name:** Robert L Hager

**Date:** 4/6/2015!

**Email:** bhager28@yahoo.com

**Phone Number:** 870-375-3446

**Address:** 3904 Angelus St, **City:** Paragould **State:** AR **Zip Code:** 72450



Please send this completed form, and a photo of yourself as a separate attachment, to [vicki.davis@arumc.org](mailto:vicki.davis@arumc.org) by **April 15, 2015.**

**Membership:** Retired Member in Full Connection

**Clergy** (*Clergy Member in Full Connection - Para. 35, 2012 Book of Discipline.*)

**Lay** (*A professing member of the United Methodist Church for at least two years preceding their election; and an active participant in the United Methodist Church for at least four years preceding their election; and a member of a church within the Arkansas Annual Conference - Para. 36, 2012 Book of Discipline. Lay delegates need not be voting members of the Annual Conference to be elected.*)

**District:** Northeast

Please select your district.

**Church:** Beech Grove

What is your local church?

**Commitment as a Delegate and Christian Conferencing Guidelines:**

**I have read and accept the [Christian Conferencing Guidelines.](#)**

Yes

No



**Share your reasons for wanting to be a delegate.**

One of the keys to renewal in our denomination is the revitalization of the small membership church. Most of our delegates over the years have represented larger congregations. As a pastor who has spent most of his ministry pastoring churches of less than 150 in attendance, I would do all in my power to represent the needs of those congregations as a delegate.

*Please limit to 150 words.*

**What leadership experiences have you had in the church or community that will help you do the work of the delegation?**

In 2009, after 30 years of active service, I entered into a retired relationship with the annual conference. Since that time I have created two award winning documentary films as well as various video projects through my company Tiny Seed Films. My focus has been to help identify and tell stories, which can provide inspiration to church leaders on the front lines of ministry.

*Please limit to 150 words.*

**Share three (3) areas crucial to The United Methodist Church's mission to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world:**

The enhancement of spiritual leadership among clergy and laity  
A conviction people are lost apart from a saving knowledge through Jesus Christ.  
The fostering of greater clergy morale among the pastors of our connection.

*Please limit to 150 words.*

**What are three (3) issues emerging from those areas you stated above:**

*Please limit to 150 words.*



Along with challenging lay persons to assume greater responsibility for their local church ministry, to also offer them increased authority on how to carry out that ministry.

To clearly articulate why people in our community need Jesus Christ as savior and Lord of their life and why they need to be a part of a local fellowship of believers.

A realization that the morale among our pastors is a barometer of our capacity to make disciples.





## ARUMC General and Jurisdictional Conference Self N

**Name:** J. Wesley Hilliard

**Date:** 4/15/15

**Email:** wes@heritagevb.org

**Phone Number:** 479-474-6424 office

**Address:** 1604 E. Pointer Trail City: Van Buren State: AR Zip Code: 72956

Please send this completed form, and a photo of yourself as a separate attachment, to [vicki.davis@arumc.org](mailto:vicki.davis@arumc.org) by **April 15, 2015**.

### Membership:

**Clergy** (*Clergy Member in Full Connection - Para. 35, 2012 Book of Discipline.*)

**Lay** (*A professing member of the United Methodist Church for at least two years preceding their election; and an active participant in the United Methodist Church for at least four years preceding their election; and a member of a church within the Arkansas Annual Conference - Para. 36, 2012 Book of Discipline. Lay delegates need not be voting members of the Annual Conference to be elected.*)

### District:

Please select your district. Northwest District

### Church:

What is your local church? Heritage UMC, Van Buren, AR

### Commitment as a Delegate and Christian Conferencing Guidelines:

**I have read and accept the [Christian Conferencing Guidelines](#).**

Yes

No

### Share your reasons for wanting to be a delegate.

I love Jesus and His Church, of which the United Methodist Church is a part. My family roots go back many generations in this denomination in Arkansas. Reading our history of true spiritual revival which led to sweeping social change, especially in England and the United States, leads me to want to see us experience such revival and have such impact on our culture again. That will require bold and visionary spiritual leadership.

*Please limit to 150 words.*



**What leadership experiences have you had in the church or community that will help you do the work of the delegation?**

As a youth, I was president of the N. Arkansas Conference Council on Youth Ministries and was a delegate to the UMC National Youth Ministries Organization. I have served 23 years as an ordained pastor in Arkansas with appointments to four churches, all of which experienced strong numerical growth during my tenure. I have served on the conference Nominations Committee and Board of Discipleship. I was part of the leadership team to start the Heart of the Ozarks Emmaus Walk community. I served our country in the United States Army and the Arkansas National Guard for nearly 27 years as a field artillery officer and chaplain. I have been mobilized or deployed for 28 months since 9/11. I retired in February, 2015, as the Senior Command Chaplain for the Arkansas National Guard (Army and Air) leading 55 religious support personnel providing spiritual leadership and care to 10,000 soldiers, airmen and their families. This position required that I receive six years of strategic leadership development training on the national level and help navigate the military through the repeal of the "don't ask don't tell" policy and the Defense of Marriage Act and its implications for the military and its chaplaincy.

*Please limit to 150 words.*

**Share three (3) areas crucial to The United Methodist Church's mission to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world:**

1. That we reclaim our mandate from John Wesley that we "have nothing to do but to save souls and spread scriptural holiness throughout the land."
2. That we demonstrate the power of the Holy Spirit to transform lives radically!
3. That we demonstrate the love of Jesus in practical ways to the world around us -- that we make the presence of Jesus real!

*Please limit to 150 words.*

**What are three (3) issues emerging from those areas you stated above:**

1. That we focus on the Great Commandments and the Great Commission as our top priorities.
2. That we come to agreement on our stances in The UM Book of Discipline and then abide by them for the sake of unity and our collective witness.
3. That we lower our denominational overhead expenses so more of our finances can go to making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world locally and abroad.

*Please limit to 150 words.*

## ARUMC General and Jurisdictional Conference Self Nomination Form

Name: Matthew H. Johnson

Date: April 14, 2015

Email: [matthew.johnson@arumc.org](mailto:matthew.johnson@arumc.org)

Phone Number: 479-439-1729

Address: 2413 Brittany Ln      City: Searcy      State: AR Zip Code: 72143



Please send this completed form, and a photo of yourself as a separate attachment, to [vicki.davis@arumc.org](mailto:vicki.davis@arumc.org) by **April 15, 2015**.

### Membership:

**Clergy** (*Clergy Member in Full Connection - Para. 35, 2012 Book of Discipline.*)

**Lay** (*A professing member of the United Methodist Church for at least two years preceding their election; and an active participant in the United Methodist Church for at least four years preceding their election; and a member of a church within the Arkansas Annual Conference - Para. 36, 2012 Book of Discipline. Lay delegates need not be voting members of the Annual Conference to be elected.*)

### District:

Please select your district. Northeast District

### Church:

What is your local church? Saint Paul United Methodist Church, Searcy

### Commitment as a Delegate and Christian Conferencing Guidelines:

**I have read and accept the [Christian Conferencing Guidelines](#).**

Yes

No

### Share your reasons for wanting to be a delegate.

I've been a United Methodist my whole life. I love the local church and our denomination. I believe deeply in our historic and Wesleyan theology and our commitment to "spread Scriptural holiness across the land". We have some obstacles to overcome as a body and I want to help lead us in refocusing our attention to Jesus' mandate to "Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations..."

*Please limit to 150 words.*



**What leadership experiences have you had in the church or community that will help you do the work of the delegation?**

I have been a part of United Methodist mission teams and camping experiences since I was 14 years old. I served on the old Paragould/Jonesboro DCYM my last two years of high school and the North Arkansas CCYM my senior year as a part of the planning team for Levav (if y'all remember that). I was active in the University of Arkansas Wesley Foundation as a participant and leader. I've served as a Circuit Elder and on the DCOM of the NW District and am currently on the Waylan Spring board. I'm also a current Doctor of Ministry student at Asbury Theological Seminary.

*Please limit to 150 words.*

**Share three (3) areas crucial to The United Methodist Church's mission to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world:**

First, it is crucial that we know what a disciple is and how to make disciples. We must learn what it looks like to be an apprentice of Jesus Christ and how to model that for other people. Second, our apprenticeship to Jesus must result in an overflow of the holy love of God in our lives that spills into everything we do including our relationships within our communities. Third, we've got to become counter-cultural in our thinking and practice with regard to the nature of the church and church membership. The church doesn't exist to serve those currently in the church, we exist as the church to serve those outside of the church and our decisions and ministries ought to reflect that.

*Please limit to 150 words.*

**What are three (3) issues emerging from those areas you stated above:**

1) We ought to be learning from our fellow United Methodists who are making disciples, particularly those from outside the United States. African Methodism isn't growing because of the tips and tricks of leadership principles but because they are doing what Jesus said to do. 2) Reduce and streamline the bureaucracy of the denomination and local churches so that we can adapt more quickly to the issues facing disciple-making congregations. 3) Create a simpler expression about what we believe which will be easier to communicate to the unchurched so we can do something better than handing them a Discipline.

*Please limit to 150 words.*

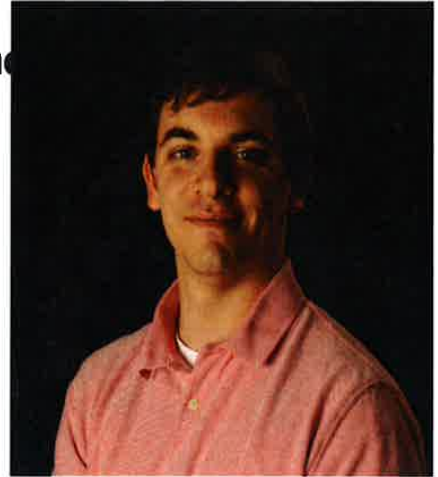
## ARUMC General and Jurisdictional Conference Form

**Name:** Andrew C. Kjorlaug

**Date:** April 14<sup>th</sup>, 2015

**Email:** [andrew.kjorlaug@arumc.org](mailto:andrew.kjorlaug@arumc.org)

**Phone Number:** 501-984-3855



**Address:** 1404 Northwick Court City: Little Rock State: AR Zip Code: 72227

Please send this completed form, and a photo of yourself as a separate attachment, to [vicki.davis@arumc.org](mailto:vicki.davis@arumc.org) by April 15, 2015.

### Membership:

**Clergy** (*Clergy Member in Full Connection - Para. 35, 2012 Book of Discipline.*)

**Lay** (*A professing member of the United Methodist Church for at least two years preceding their election; and an active participant in the United Methodist Church for at least four years preceding their election; and a member of a church within the Arkansas Annual Conference - Para. 36, 2012 Book of Discipline. Lay delegates need not be voting members of the Annual Conference to be elected.*)

### District:

Please select your district. Central District

### Church:

What is your local church? Lakewood United Methodist Church

### Commitment as a Delegate and Christian Conferencing Guidelines:

**I have read and accept the [Christian Conferencing Guidelines](#).**

Yes

No

### Share your reasons for wanting to be a delegate.

*Please limit to 150 words.*



This is a time of transition, revitalization, and reimagining of ministry within the Arkansas Conference and the United Methodist Church. Yet, the primary discussion seems to focus around the various points of division and debate rather than the ways in which the United Methodist Church can spread the gospel. In response to this tension, I would like to be a delegate to support the continued unity of the church, even in the face of disagreement and discussion. The gospel of Jesus Christ (of love, healing, and forgiveness) must be shared and the church can do that more effectively as one body.

**What leadership experiences have you had in the church or community that will help you do the work of the delegation?**

*Please limit to 150 words.*

Throughout my time in ministry, both as a lay staff person and as a clergy person, I have been very involved in numerous and different kinds of ministry. In my time in Nashville, Tennessee I was actively involved in English as a Second Language ministry and immigrant outreach. Through my time in seminary I experienced the nature of urban ministry. Since returning to the Arkansas Conference, I have been in leadership within my congregations in leading worship, imagining new ways in which we can reach out to our communities, and in focusing on connecting the church to a younger and changing community.

**Share three (3) areas crucial to The United Methodist Church's mission to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world:**

*Please limit to 150 words.*

1. The church must actively and authentically reach out to new groups within our communities. The church has experienced significant decline over the past several decades. To reverse this trend, we must do the difficult work of changing our primary tools of outreach and go in new directions.
2. Church unity is important and must be strived for. We must acknowledge that we will not agree on all issues and seek meaningful compromise within our church structure to allow unity and diversity within the greater body of the United Methodist Church.
3. The church must confront directly the issues of poverty and social inequality. Throughout scripture, Jesus challenges persons to look at others for their worth as children of God. However, we many times fail to address the issues surrounding poverty and social inequality, instead trying to spend our way out of the issues. The church must be more upfront and direct in addressing these very important issues.

**What are three (3) issues emerging from those areas you stated above:**

*Please limit to 150 words.*

1. The establishment of a new General, Central, and Jurisdictional conference structure to facilitate church unity and diversity.
2. Supporting churches (financially and pastorally) in emerging communities to make disciples in bold new ways.
3. Becoming advocates for the poor and disenfranchised within our society, particularly within our local congregations and communities.

## ARUMC General and Jurisdictional Conference Self Nomination Form

**Name:** Blake Andrew Lasater

**Date:** 09 April 2015

**Email:** blakelasater@gmail.com

**Phone Number:** 479-426-2547

**Address:** 8 Merritt Circle **City:** Bella Vista **State:** AR **Zip Code:** 72714

Please send this completed form, and a photo of yourself as a separate attachment to [vicki.davis@arumc.org](mailto:vicki.davis@arumc.org) by **April 15, 2015**.



### Membership:

**Clergy** (*Clergy Member in Full Connection - Para. 35, 2012 Book of Discipline.*)

**Lay** (*A professing member of the United Methodist Church for at least two years preceding their election; and an active participant in the United Methodist Church for at least four years preceding their election; and a member of a church within the Arkansas Annual Conference - Para. 36, 2012 Book of Discipline. Lay delegates need not be voting members of the Annual Conference to be elected.*)

### District:

Please select your district. Northwest District

### Church:

What is your local church? Living Waters UMC

### Commitment as a Delegate and Christian Conferencing Guidelines:

**I have read and accept the [Christian Conferencing Guidelines](#).**

Yes

No

### Share your reasons for wanting to be a delegate.

I believe passionately in the United Methodist Church, and I know as a movement we possess the gifts and graces capable of renewing people's vitality and faith, transforming local communities and world-wide associations, and our Wesleyan heritage is uniquely poised to speak deeply to the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Mission field. I wish to bring that knowledge and passion to the General Conference to work with others and set in motion not only the revival of our denomination but Christianity in general.

*Please limit to 150 words.*



**What leadership experiences have you had in the church or community that will help you do the work of the delegation?**

I am a veteran of the Iraq War having served for ten years as a Navy/Marine Corps Chaplain in a multi-faith, pluralistic environment that taught me the importance of listening, serving, and leading people of different faiths, cultures, and generations. I have served as a new church start pastor building a faith community and reaching people outside the walls of the church. I have worked within the local church to challenge racial, gender, and sexual stereotypes, and bring about real and lasting environments of inclusion.

*Please limit to 150 words.*

**Share three (3) areas crucial to The United Methodist Church's mission to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world:**

Finding a new evangelistic energy that unlocks the deep truths of the Bible for a post-modern world of tremendous diversity. Re-discovering John Wesley's passion for moving beyond the confines of the church to share the Gospel of Christ to a generation that is searching for hope and meaning. Embracing our differences so that instead of seeing division we focus on our connectional nature so that our rich theological diversity may speak in the language of each and every person in our communities.

*Please limit to 150 words.*

**What are three (3) issues emerging from those areas you stated above:**

We must come to realize that division is a failure that surrenders the future to irrelevancy and decline so we can, and we must, and we will find a way through our current polarization that enables the traditional and progressive witnesses of faith to come together for the mission before us -- we can all love alike. Re-discover our passion for helping others find their way to God's love and moving aside all obstacles that hinder this passion. Re-energize our connectional nature to bring out the best in one another and in our churches; each church and every person has a unique voice to share that will strengthen United Methodism.

*Please limit to 150 words.*



**ARUMC General and Jurisdictional Conference**

**Name:** Michael L. Mattox

**Date:** April 14, 2015

**Email:** mmattox@fumchs.com

**Phone Number:** 501.623.6668



**Address:** 1100 Central Ave. **City:** Hot Springs National Park **State:** AR **Zip Code:** 71901

Please send this completed form, and a photo of yourself as a separate attachment, to [vicki.davis@arumc.org](mailto:vicki.davis@arumc.org) by **April 15, 2015**.

**Membership:**

**Clergy** (*Clergy Member in Full Connection - Para. 35, 2012 Book of Discipline.*)

**Lay** (*A professing member of the United Methodist Church for at least two years preceding their election; and an active participant in the United Methodist Church for at least four years preceding their election; and a member of a church within the Arkansas Annual Conference - Para. 36, 2012 Book of Discipline. Lay delegates need not be voting members of the Annual Conference to be elected.*)

**District:**

Please select your district. Southwest District

**Church:**

What is your local church? Hot Springs First United Methodist

**Commitment as a Delegate and Christian Conferencing Guidelines:**

**I have read and accept the [Christian Conferencing Guidelines](#).**

Yes

No

**Share your reasons for wanting to be a delegate.**

I love the United Methodist Church. God has blessed our denomination in many ways, and I believe God is still using us to make disciples who transform their communities and congregations with a message of love that matters and connects with the deepest need in the human experience. We are at our best when we are reaching across self-drawn lines of separation and discord to be witnesses for Christ who redeems, forgives, sustains, and commissions us.

*Please limit to 150 words.*



**What leadership experiences have you had in the church or community that will help you do the work of the delegation?**

I have been serving the church as an ordained pastor since 1977. I've been privileged to serve as an associate pastor, senior pastor, and district superintendent. I've held leadership positions in both Annual Conferences in Arkansas before our merger to become one conference as well as serving the General Church through an 8-year service on the General Board of one of our General Agencies. So, I'm happy to say that I've seen the Church in action on local, state-wide, national, and international levels.

*Please limit to 150 words.*

**Share three (3) areas crucial to The United Methodist Church's mission to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world:**

1. Unity
2. Empowerment of the Holy Spirit
3. A sense of urgency and renewal for disciple-making and transformation.

*Please limit to 150 words.*

**What are three (3) issues emerging from those areas you stated above:**

1. We must find a way in our quest for unity to restore a yearning for healing and wholeness--God is able and we must find a footing that is squarely on God's "side" seeking justice, and mercy.
2. We must foster a willingness to yield to the power of the Holy Spirit in the midst of our own agendas and position-statements.
3. We must lean more into the fresh new wind of what God can do and away from the sense of fear and timidity based merely on what we have known and/or seen in the past.

*Please limit to 150 words.*

## ARUMC General and Jurisdictional Conference Self N

**Name:** John P Miles

**Date:** 4-15-2015

**Email:** [jmiles@fumcjonesboro.org](mailto:jmiles@fumcjonesboro.org)

**Phone Number:** 870-932-2320

**Address:** 414 W. Highland **City:** Jonesboor **State:** AR **Zip Code:** 72401



Please send this completed form, and a photo of yourself as a separate attachment, to [vicki.davis@arumc.org](mailto:vicki.davis@arumc.org) by **April 15, 2015**.

### Membership:

**Clergy** (*Clergy Member in Full Connection - Para. 35, 2012 Book of Discipline.*)

**Lay** (*A professing member of the United Methodist Church for at least two years preceding their election; and an active participant in the United Methodist Church for at least four years preceding their election; and a member of a church within the Arkansas Annual Conference - Para. 36, 2012 Book of Discipline. Lay delegates need not be voting members of the Annual Conference to be elected.*)

### District:

Please select your district. Northeast District

### Church:

What is your local church? Jonesboro FUMC

### Commitment as a Delegate and Christian Conferencing Guidelines:

**I have read and accept the [Christian Conferencing Guidelines](#).**

Yes

No

### Share your reasons for wanting to be a delegate.

I love the United Methodist Church. I want to see her remain vital, intact, and reaching a diversity of people. I believe we have a message of grace and truth that our society desperately needs. I believe the UMC is uniquely situated to bridge ideological gaps that divide our society. I want to help the church avoid the terrible divisions that have afflicted both mainline denominations and more conservative denominations as well.

*Please limit to 150 words.*



**What leadership experiences have you had in the church or community that will help you do the work of the delegation?**

I have been a pastor in Arkansas for 32 years. I have served in four growing United Methodist Churches. I have served in rural settings and in large urban settings. I have grown churches with a great deal of diversity in terms of income, class, ideology. I have begun multiple worship services with a diversity of styles. I currently am working in our church to developing satellite churches to reach our community. I have been active in Walk to Emmaus and I have been the spiritual director of two communities in our state. I have been a delegate to two General Conferences and I have attended two more.

*Please limit to 150 words.*

**Share three (3) areas crucial to The United Methodist Church's mission to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world:**

We need to stream line our ordination and licensing process.  
We need to hold our boards and agencies accountable to our task of making Disciples of Jesus Christ for The Transformation of the World.  
We need to maintain the unity of the church in order not to cripple ourselves with the divisions plaguing so many other mainline churches .

*Please limit to 150 words.*

**What are three (3) issues emerging from those areas you stated above:**

We have several people in our church who are exploring ordination and candidacy. The process is extremely complex confusing and daunting. I would love to see the licensing process simplified and more emphasis put on course of study, on line classes and apprenticeships.  
Our boards and agencies need to refocus their attention on our mission of disciple making. In my experience they tend to have their own agendas and not the mission of the whole church at heart.  
We need to find some way to live together on the issues around human sexuality. Many of our sister denominations are in steep decline because they could not find a way to bridge their divide. I desperately want to avoid that split in our community. There are some creative plans circulating we need to try to develop one that will work.

*Please limit to 150 words.*



## ARUMC General and Jurisdictional Conference Form

**Name:** Rebekah Miles

**Date:** April 15, 2015

**Email:** [rlmiles@smu.edu](mailto:rlmiles@smu.edu)

**Phone Number:** 817-939-0312 (cell)

**Address:** Perkins School of Theology, Southern Methodist University, P.O. Box 750133  
**City:** Dallas State: TX Zip Code: 75275-0133

Please send this completed form, and a photo of yourself as a separate attachment, to [vicki.davis@arumc.org](mailto:vicki.davis@arumc.org) by **April 15, 2015**.

### Membership:

**Clergy** (*Clergy Member in Full Connection - Para. 35, 2012 Book of Discipline.*)

**Lay** (*A professing member of the United Methodist Church for at least two years preceding their election; and an active participant in the United Methodist Church for at least four years preceding their election; and a member of a church within the Arkansas Annual Conference - Para. 36, 2012 Book of Discipline. Lay delegates need not be voting members of the Annual Conference to be elected.*)

### District:

Please select your district. Central District

### Church:

What is your local church? First United Methodist Church Fort Worth (Central Texas Conference)

### Commitment as a Delegate and Christian Conferencing Guidelines:

**I have read and accept the [Christian Conferencing Guidelines](#).**

Yes

No

### Share your reasons for wanting to be a delegate.

*Please limit to 150 words.*



This sounds old-fashioned, but the main reason is that after more than a year of prayer, conversation, and discernment, it seems to be my duty and calling to offer myself as a delegate. (Whether I will actually be a delegate depends on your discernment!) My work as a seminary professor has given me insight into theological education and the processes leading to ordained ministry. I also believe that being a UM Clergy delegate to General and Jurisdictional Conference is one of a handful of things I do really well; I have developed legislative know-how, political skills, and connections across our denomination that would help me do the work that needs to be done. Because we are in such a mess, those kinds of proficiencies, skills, and connections would be especially important in the 2016 General Conference. Finally, it is immensely satisfying to engage in legislative work that furthers our mission.

**What leadership experiences have you had in the church or community that will help you do the work of the delegation?**

*Please limit to 150 words.*

Previous service as an Arkansas clergy delegate to General and Jurisdictional Conferences (including writing regular reports home to our annual conference)

Membership on the General Conference Legislative Committee on Higher Education and Ministry (three times)

Service as vice-chairperson of that legislative committee and twice as chairperson of legislative sub-committees

Previous successful experience writing General Conference legislation and organizing groups to write and support legislation, primarily regarding theological education, deacons, elders, local pastors, and associate members

Membership on 2004-08 University Senate, the body overseeing UM colleges and universities

Service as vice-president of the Commission on Theological Education, the body overseeing our UM seminaries and the UM accreditation of non-UM seminaries

Membership on 2004-08 Commission on the Study of Ministry

Membership on 2008-12 Council of Bishops' Task Force on Theological Education and Leadership Formation

Service in many roles in the local church, our conference, and the general church

Capacity to pray hard!





**Share three (3) areas crucial to The United Methodist Church's mission to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world:**

*Please limit to 150 words.*

Here are three areas that will be important at the 2016 General Conference and where I believe I could make a difference.

1. Strengthening and reforming theological education

With vibrant and faithful theological education, we can grow a vibrant and faithful church equipped to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

2. Fine-tuning key disciplinary paragraphs regarding our orders of ministry

Although our disciplinary paragraphs relating to the orders of ministry can be excruciatingly boring, the way we structure these orders will be critical for our future.

3. Finding a way through (or around or under or over) deep divisions within our church

Here is a sad and obvious fact: we are deeply divided as a church. Our tensions and conflicts usually generate more heat than light and often distract us from our mission. These divisions will be particularly pressing at this General Conference.

**What are three (3) issues emerging from those areas you stated above:**

*Please limit to 150 words.*

1. Theological education

Not all UM seminaries are doing a good job shaping the leaders we will need to fulfill our mission. I am working on pieces of legislation designed to keep our schools more accountable to the church.

2. Ordering of Ministry

I am supporting pieces of legislation that would 1) help streamline the cumbersome process leading to ordained ministry; 2) make it easier to hold clergy accountable while keeping protections and safeguards in place; and 3) strengthen the roles and missional opportunities of elders, deacons, local pastors, and associate members.

3. Deep divisions within our church

The 2016 General Conference will likely be one of the most divided and conflictual ever. We will need people who can work across different groups and with various proposals to try to find a way through the conflict for the sake of our shared mission. I believe I can help do that.

**ARUMC General and Jurisdictional Conference Self No**

**Name:** Mark Norman

**Date:** 4/15/15

**Email:** mark.norman@arumc.org

**Phone Number:** 501-303-0600

**Address:** 1320 Heartwood Street City: White Hall State: AR Zip Code: 71602



Please send this completed form, and a photo of yourself as a separate attachment, to [vicki.davis@arumc.org](mailto:vicki.davis@arumc.org) by **April 15, 2015**.

**Membership:**

**Clergy** (*Clergy Member in Full Connection - Para. 35, 2012 Book of Discipline.*)

**Lay** (*A professing member of the United Methodist Church for at least two years preceding their election; and an active participant in the United Methodist Church for at least four years preceding their election; and a member of a church within the Arkansas Annual Conference - Para. 36, 2012 Book of Discipline. Lay delegates need not be voting members of the Annual Conference to be elected.*)

**District:**

Please select your district. Southeast District

**Church:**

What is your local church? n/a

**Commitment as a Delegate and Christian Conferencing Guidelines:**

**I have read and accept the [Christian Conferencing Guidelines](#).**

Yes

No

**Share your reasons for wanting to be a delegate.**

*Please limit to 150 words.*

My desire to serve as a delegate came after much prayer. I do not take this task lightly. If given an opportunity, I promise you I will do the difficult work with the rest of the delegation. Throughout my journey in ministry I've experienced many paradigm shifts. I now find myself at a unique place in ministry. As a superintendent, I am growing and developing my new role while seeking to serve both the clergy and laity of Southeast district. I am continuing to grow and develop spiritually. I have the privilege to hear how God is moving in the lives of clergy and laity. I am learning how vital it is to keep Jesus Christ central in my life. It is out of this Christ-centered focus that I declare my desire to serve the Annual conference as a General or Jurisdictional delegate.

**What leadership experiences have you had in the church or community that will help you do the work of the delegation?**

*Please limit to 150 words.*

I have worked in various committees in the Arkansas Annual conference here are a few:

- \* Board of Trustees Philander Smith College
- \* Outdoor Ministries
- \* Arkansas Conference Board of Finance and Administration
- \* Arkansas Conference Black Methodist for Church Renewal
- \* Mount Eagle Board of Directors
- \* Church and Society
- \* Cabinet Secretary

**Share three (3) areas crucial to The United Methodist Church's mission to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world:**

*Please limit to 150 words.*

We are at a critical time as a denomination. Over the past four years, we discussed numerous changes in our polity that we shape the future of United Methodist Church. The most critical area is our unity as a denomination. As United Methodist, we must remain unified no matter how we differ in opinion. In addition, we need to make our mission the primary focus of everything we do. There are times I feel we as a denomination spend too much energy on everything else but make disciples. Lastly, we must accomplish the mission of the church with spiritual vitality not programmatic processes. New disciples are made when the people who are currently in the church get excited about Jesus and serve the mission field!

**What are three (3) issues emerging from those areas you stated above:**

*Please limit to 150 words.*



First of all, I believe the numerous societal and cultural issue of our world are dictating the discussion of our church. We must be focused on our unique mission in this world. As the body of Christ, we call to transformation within our current social realities. Secondly, we have generations who have no religious memory. We have to explore how to share the gospel in new ways for people to have a new experience of Jesus Christ. Lastly, I am concerned about the spiritual and numerical decline of United Methodist Church. I believe that these two issues are hand in hand. The issues around our spiritual decline feed into our numerical decline. These issues are crucial to our future work as United Methodist

## ARUMC General and Jurisdictional Conference Self Nomination Form

**Name:** Steve Pulliam

**Date:** March 10, 2015

**Email:** spulliam@centraltolife.com

**Phone Number:** 479-442-1822

**Address:** P.O. Box 1106 City: Fayetteville State: AR Zip Code: 72702

Please send this completed form, and a photo of yourself as a separate attachment to [vicki.davis@arumc.org](mailto:vicki.davis@arumc.org) by **April 15, 2015**.



**Membership:**

**Clergy** (*Clergy Member in Full Connection - Para. 35, 2012 Book of Discipline.*)

**Lay** (*A professing member of the United Methodist Church for at least two years preceding their election; and an active participant in the United Methodist Church for at least four years preceding their election; and a member of a church within the Arkansas Annual Conference - Para. 36, 2012 Book of Discipline. Lay delegates need not be voting members of the Annual Conference to be elected.*)

**District:**

Please select your district. Northwest District

**Church:**

What is your local church? Central-Fayetteville

**Commitment as a Delegate and Christian Conferencing Guidelines:**

**I have read and accept the [Christian Conferencing Guidelines](#).**

- Yes  
 No

**Share your reasons for wanting to be a delegate.**

My greatest desire is recovering our Wesleyan heritage of offering Christ to the world and joining in God's kingdom work. The delegates of General Conference play a tremendous role in the direction and focus of the local church and Methodism on a global scale. I would like to see a greater emphasis on: practicing the means of grace; holistic missions focusing on the whole person; starting believing communities in places where believing communities don't exist (or have left for "greener pastures"); restructuring our current system and funding to allow more resources to be utilized in the communities of the local church; and simplifying the process of entering into licensed and ordained ministry.

*Please limit to 150 words.*



**What leadership experiences have you had in the church or community that will help you do the work of the delegation?**

I grew up in a small United Methodist Church in Northeast Arkansas and have served in a small church setting, as well as a large church setting. Currently, I lead a large multi-site church staff at Central, Genesis, and soon-to-be Wesley Foundation Campus Ministry sites. I am well acquainted with the needs, challenges, and opportunities of both small, mid-sized, and large churches. I have also served on the staff of a Wesley Foundation. I've served on the Conference Nominating Committee, the Board of Higher Education and Ministry, the Vision Team. Currently, I serve as the Conference Chair of the Board of Discipleship, the University of Arkansas Wesley Foundation Advisory Board, a Circuit Elder, and a mentor for a few candidates entering into licensed and ordained ministry.

*Please limit to 150 words.*

**Share three (3) areas crucial to The United Methodist Church's mission to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world:**

- (1) Intentional discipleship within the local church by inviting people beyond the worship service into small groups focused on the means of grace for transformation and for people to hear God's call upon their lives to be engaged in the priesthood of all believers and live out their membership vows of prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness.
- (2) Starting believing communities where believing communities do not already exist, or tragically they've chosen to leave.
- (3) Offering Christ through holistic mission and invitational evangelism by serving the physical and spiritual needs.

*Please limit to 150 words.*

**What are three (3) issues emerging from those areas you stated above:**

- (1) The local church must be the heartbeat of the United Methodist Church. This means realigning our priorities and restructuring our resources at the general level which are not resourcing the local church and, in fact, are inhibiting the local church from their full potential in their ministry contexts.
- (2) The United Methodist Church must align resources to train and equip pastors to start new faith communities to reach younger generations, as well as free up resources to assist in funding these new faith communities, as well as making the process of entering vocational ministry less complicated for young clergy.
- (3) The United Methodist Church must recover our Wesleyan missional witness of reaching the forgotten, marginalized, and those with no faith affiliation, both locally and globally.

*Please limit to 150 words.*



**ARUMC General and Jurisdictional Conference Self**

**Name:** John Robbins

**Date:** 4/13/15

**Email:** jrobbins@centraltolife.com

**Phone Number:** 479-799-7723

**Address:** 6 West Dickson St City: Fayetteville State: AR Zip Code: 72701

Please send this completed form, and a photo of yourself as a separate attachment to [vicki.davis@arumc.org](mailto:vicki.davis@arumc.org) by **April 15, 2015**.



**Membership:**

**Clergy** (*Clergy Member in Full Connection - Para. 35, 2012 Book of Discipline.*)

**Lay** (*A professing member of the United Methodist Church for at least two years preceding their election; and an active participant in the United Methodist Church for at least four years preceding their election; and a member of a church within the Arkansas Annual Conference - Para. 36, 2012 Book of Discipline. Lay delegates need not be voting members of the Annual Conference to be elected.*)

**District:**

Please select your district. Northwest District

**Church:**

What is your local church? Central Fayetteville

**Commitment as a Delegate and Christian Conferencing Guidelines:**

**I have read and accept the [Christian Conferencing Guidelines](#).**

Yes

No

**Share your reasons for wanting to be a delegate.**

I have a deep passion for the United Methodist Church. I am convinced that we have the most sound theology in Christendom. I am certain we can glorify Christ to a much greater degree if those who are willing to deal with the difficult matters facing the Church speak up. I would like to be a part of that process. I have been serving in the local church for twenty nine years. I believe I have a lot of varied experiences to offer as a representative of the Arkansas Conference.

*Please limit to 150 words.*



**What leadership experiences have you had in the church or community that will help you do the work of the delegation?**

I have been fortunate to be a part of several large and rapidly growing congregations. I think that provides me a unique perspective on ministry matters. I have also been on one jurisdictional delegation and one General Conference delegation as an alternate in another Annual Conference. I have relationships with leaders in several Annual Conferences that I think can be helpful for the Arkansas delegation.

*Please limit to 150 words.*

**Share three (3) areas crucial to The United Methodist Church's mission to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world:**

We have got to find creative ways to encourage young people to consider full-time ministry as a vocation because of our aging clergy population. They must be diverse in race, gender, and skill-sets. However, they all need to be hard-working, committed disciples of Jesus Christ with a passion to share the Good News. Secondly, we have got to encourage and train members of our congregations to be active participants in discipling the unchurched. Finally, we need to be creative in how, and even when, we worship to a large segment of our culture that is not interested in Christianity and corporate worship as they know it presently.

*Please limit to 150 words.*

**What are three (3) issues emerging from those areas you stated above:**

If we don't attract younger, diverse, and dedicated clergy in large numbers we will be unable to sustain many of our local churches that are critical to the advancement of the Kingdom. Secondly, we have to teach our congregations to passionately share the Good News in a way that is appealing to non-believers, while maintaining our theological integrity. This is being done, but has to be emphasized as a primary objective immediately. Finally, we have to consider new ways of reaching people with the Gospel. Many of our traditional forms of sharing the Gospel are not appealing to non-believers. We must always maintain our integrity, but continually refine our methodology. It is essential we meet people where they are because they are not coming to us like they used to fifty years ago.

*Please limit to 150 words.*

**ARUMC General and Jurisdictional Conference Self Nomination**

**Name:** Deidre "Dede" Roberts

**Date:** 4/15/15

**Email:** droberts@arumc.org

**Phone Number:** 501-428-4062

**Address:** 800 W. Daisy Bates Drive City: Little Rock State: AR Zip Code: 72212



Please send this completed form, and a photo of yourself as a separate attachment, to [vicki.davis@arumc.org](mailto:vicki.davis@arumc.org) by **April 15, 2015**.

**Membership:**

**Clergy** (*Clergy Member in Full Connection - Para. 35, 2012 Book of Discipline.*)

**Lay** (*A professing member of the United Methodist Church for at least two years preceding their election; and an active participant in the United Methodist Church for at least four years preceding their election; and a member of a church within the Arkansas Annual Conference - Para. 36, 2012 Book of Discipline. Lay delegates need not be voting members of the Annual Conference to be elected.*)

**District:**

Please select your district. Central District

**Church:**

What is your local church? My Charge Conference membership is First United Methodist Church, Conway

**Commitment as a Delegate and Christian Conferencing Guidelines:**

**I have read and accept the [Christian Conferencing Guidelines](#).**

Yes

No

**Share your reasons for wanting to be a delegate.**

I would be honored to serve as a delegate to General Conference. I love the United Methodist Church and believe our message of prevenient, justifying and sanctifying grace is the Christian gospel the world needs to hear. I would like to be part of shaping our ministries around that message. I am an orthodox theologian who intentionally seeks the "extreme center" where I believe we can conference about the tensions of our life together and creatively engage in new ways of being the church together. I know we are facing deep challenges of belief and practice, and I remain optimistic for our future. I would like to help define that future.

*Please limit to 150 words.*

**What leadership experiences have you had in the church or community that will help you do the work of the delegation?**

I have pastored churches of all sizes, served as a district superintendent, helped define the work of a District Mission Strategist and am now creating ways for churches, clergy and laity to take their own next steps toward vitality. I have also chaired the Board of Ordained Ministry and served on other conference committees. All of these places of leadership required deep listening, discernment, organization, team building and effective communication. I believe these experiences have helped me become a creative and responsive leader. Conversations with peers across the denomination have convicted me about challenges we are facing in our connection. However, Arkansas is a leader in addressing many of these issues. I would bring the sum of my experience, skills and networking to the table and be an active and informed member of our delegation.

*Please limit to 150 words.*

**Share three (3) areas crucial to The United Methodist Church's mission to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world:**

First of all, the development of discipling ministries is crucial. Members are not necessarily disciples. We must cultivate environments and resources to help people grow as disciples who make disciples. Secondly, critical to our health and growth as a church is the ability to engage in holy conferencing. Shrill arguments between the left and the right do not model or communicate our fundamental message of grace. Finally we need leaders, both lay and clergy, who not only understand the culture but can lead us in offering a relevant message of grace in and to it. I am committed to identifying, equipping and deploying spiritual leaders across the denomination.

*Please limit to 150 words.*

**What are three (3) issues emerging from those areas you stated above:**

First of all, the need for spiritual revival is real among the people called Methodists. Revival cannot be programmed, but the values and virtues of practicing the means of grace, holding one another accountable in love and praying for revival will help bring renewed spiritual focus to our mission and ministry. Secondly, we need to honor our rich diversity as a worldwide church and admit that we do experience unique cultural contexts in our various places. One of the primary challenges of this General Conference will be to find a way to have a conversation before we make decisions regarding specific disagreements over belief and practice. Finally, I am most interested in identifying and equipping the next generation of leaders. This includes identifying new models of theological education for both clergy and lay leaders, identifying ways to pass the baton of leadership to younger disciples, and blessing new embodiments of Christian communities that can reach new people.

*Please limit to 150 words.*



**Name:** Ryan A. Rush

**Date:** April 8, 2015

**Email:** ryan.rush@arumc.org

**Phone Number:** (501) 285-5840

**Address:** 6616 W Pinewood Dr

**City:** Pine Bluff

**State:** AR

**Zip Code:** 71603

**Membership:** Clergy (Elder in Full Connection)

**District:** Southeast

**Church:** Good Faith Carr / Redfield Charge

**Commitment as a Delegate and Christian Conferencing Guidelines:**

**I have read and accept the [Christian Conferencing Guidelines](#).**

Yes

**Share your reasons for wanting to be a delegate.**

*I am committed to the future of our connection and wish to dedicate my time and talents to maintaining unity while following the lead of the Holy Spirit, particularly where full inclusion of all believers and social justice are concerned.*

**What leadership experiences have you had in the church or community that will help you do the work of the delegation?**

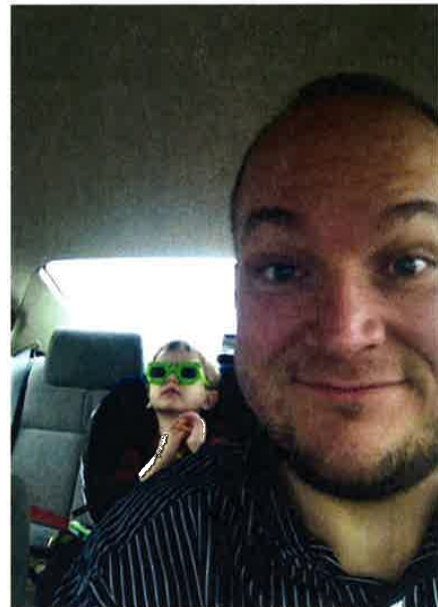
*I have served as an elder for ten years, pastoring several churches. I have completed the New Church Leadership Institute, served as a circuit elder since the inception of the program, served on a district committee on ministry, and serve as part of the leadership team of Arkansas Reconciling Methodists. In the community, I am national chaplain of Alpha Kappa Lambda Fraternity and a local chaplain in Civitan. In the past I participated in the Lions' Club. I also hold a Doctorate of Ministry focused in missional studies.*

**Share three (3) areas crucial to The United Methodist Church's mission to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world:**

*(1) The eligibility of all believers for the Christian rites of matrimony and ordination. (2) The nature and importance of unity in the connection. (3) Ecumenical relationships with other Christian churches.*

**What are three (3) issues emerging from those areas you stated above:**

*(1) I support the eligibility of LGBT persons for Christian matrimony (after appropriate pastoral counseling and with pastoral approval, as with all people) and ordination (after the normal processes of examination, as for all people). (2) It is vital that the church remain united; however, United Methodist churches outside the USA should have more local autonomy: in the postcolonial and postimperial era, a context of more localized autonomy is appropriate. (3) The Spirit is drawing many churches along with the UMC on compatible courses of justice and faith, and every effort to overcome the divisions of the past should be made.*





#400

## ARUMC General and Jurisdictional Conference Self Nomination Form

**Name:** Jason Sutfin

**Date:** 4/14/15

**Email:** jasonsutfin771@hotmail.com

**Phone Number:** 870-761-9090

**Address:**      **City:**      **State:**      **Zip Code:**

1808 Fairway Lane, Paragould, AR 72450

Please send this completed form, and a photo of yourself as a separate attachment, to [vicki.davis@arumc.org](mailto:vicki.davis@arumc.org) by **April 15, 2015**.

**Membership:** Elder in Full Connection

**Clergy** (*Clergy Member in Full Connection - Para. 35, 2012 Book of Discipline.*)

**Lay** (*A professing member of the United Methodist Church for at least two years preceding their election; and an active participant in the United Methodist Church for at least four years preceding their election; and a member of a church within the Arkansas Annual Conference - Para. 36, 2012 Book of Discipline. Lay delegates need not be voting members of the Annual Conference to be elected.*)

**District:**

Northeast District

**Church:** Griffin Memorial UMc

**Commitment as a Delegate and Christian Conferencing Guidelines:**

**I have read and accept the [Christian Conferencing Guidelines](#).**

Yes

No





**Share your reasons for wanting to be a delegate.**

*Please limit to 150 words.*

I believe that if the Mission Field is the most important reason for appointments, then pay equity across the board must be addressed at General Conference. I also sincerely believe that our theology as Methodists must be defended and our traditions upheld.

**What leadership experiences have you had in the church or community that will help you do the work of the delegation?**

*Please limit to 150 words.*

1. I am on the Conference evangelism committee
2. I am on the District Board of Ministry and was on the central district board as well
3. I am an Elder and part of my calling is the Order of the church

**Share three (3) areas crucial to The United Methodist Church's mission to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world:**

*Please limit to 150 words.*

1. Pay for Clergy should be done through each annual conference based on years of experience and some form of merit pay. Clergy pay should be included with apportionments so that appointments can be based on the mission field and need.
2. We live in a lost world, only Jesus can save us. Nothing else!
3. Scripture above all!

**What are three (3) issues emerging from those areas you stated above:**

*Please limit to 150 words.*

1. Clergy pay is self explanatory. However, if we are not willing to address this issue, then we should look to eliminate our current system offering the local church control.
2. If clergy can't offer Jesus in a way to reach people and change lives, they must be trained so that they can. If they still can't, eliminate guaranteed appointment.
3. Scripture above all!

## ARUMC General and Jurisdictional Conference Self Nomination Form

**Name:** Brittany Richardson Watson

**Date:** April 12, 2015

**Email:** [brittany.watson@arumc.org](mailto:brittany.watson@arumc.org)

**Phone Number:** 501-529-2044

**Address:** 225 Reeves Rd.

**City:** Sherwood

**State:** AR

**Zip Code:** 72120



Please send this completed form, and a photo of yourself as a separate attachment, to [vicki.davis@arumc.org](mailto:vicki.davis@arumc.org) by **April 15, 2015**.

**Membership:**

**Clergy** (Clergy Member in Full Connection - Para. 35, 2012 Book of Discipline.)

**Lay** (A professing member of the United Methodist Church for at least two years preceding their election; and an active participant in the United Methodist Church for at least four years preceding their election; and a member of a church within the Arkansas Annual Conference - Para. 36, 2012 Book of Discipline. Lay delegates need not be voting members of the Annual Conference to be elected.)

**District:** Central

**Church:** Sylvan Hills United Methodist Church

**Commitment as a Delegate and Christian Conferencing Guidelines:**

**I have read and accept the [Christian Conferencing Guidelines](#).**

Yes

No



**Share your reasons for wanting to be a delegate.**

*Please limit to 150 words.*

I entered a United Methodist Church for the first time at the invitation of some good Methodists that my mom met while in line to vote in the 1992 presidential election. These kind people introduced me and my family to a church that would become home. This is the church that taught me to prayer, empowered me to preach, and gave me the courage to serve. I love the UMC and am honored to now serve the church as an ordained elder. I have experienced the power of the local church and believe in its ability to change lives and the world. I also know that what makes these local churches strong is the connectional support and leadership at the jurisdictional and general conference levels. I am confident that God is moving, reviving and transforming our church at all levels and I want to be a part of this movement.

**What leadership experiences have you had in the church or community that will help you do the work of the delegation?**

*Please limit to 150 words.*

I have had the opportunity to explore the work of the church in many different arenas, each one teaching me what it means to lead. As a pastor, I have learned to cast vision and lead. On the Transition Team for Imagine Ministry I learned about the pace and strategy of change. As the secretary of the conference Council on Finance and Administration I have learned about the theological depth of budgets and apportionments. On the Taskforce to Study the Rules of Order and Standing Rules I learned about the complicated relationship between unity and passion. On the District Committee on Ministry I have experienced the beauty and diversity of UM ministry in Arkansas. Most of all, I have learned that serving the church is about being willing to give all of who I am to God, even when it makes me nervous.

**Share three (3) areas crucial to The United Methodist Church's mission to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world:**

*Please limit to 150 words.*

1. **Embrace Our Identity:** The world is in desperate need of a people obsessed with God's grace. This is who we are as United Methodists. What would it mean for our world, our communities, ourselves if the grace of God was what defined us?
2. **Appreciate Our Tradition:** I took a music appreciation course in college and my professor said that we study the greatness of the past so we can listen more attentively for greatness in the future. I believe that this stands true for our UM tradition. We must value our tradition, not so that we get stuck, but so that it will teach us to participate in God's movement in the future.
3. **Be More Childlike:** My son, Joseph, makes friends by simply waving and saying, "Hi". As long as you are breathing, Joseph will be your friend (dogs and spiders included). How can we be more childlike, seeking unity in our common created-ness instead of division in the midst of our brokenness?



**What are three (3) issues emerging from those areas you stated above:**

*Please limit to 150 words.*

1. How can we empower our congregations to claim their United Methodist identity? Our unique connectional structure and grace-filled theology blends together to create a church that has the power to change the world through the grace of God. How do we share this radical message with our communities?
2. How can we move beyond novelty into purposeful innovation in the church? How can we embrace the meaningful traditions and structures of our church while also remaining flexible to the Spirit? This is a conversation to be had on every level of the church.
3. My greatest fear for our church is division. While our Sunday morning pews are filled with those who see beyond division and embrace grace, there are those in the Church who would have us believe that unity is impossible. Our strength as United Methodists lies not in our ability to agree, but our willingness to embrace love and Christian unity when we disagree.

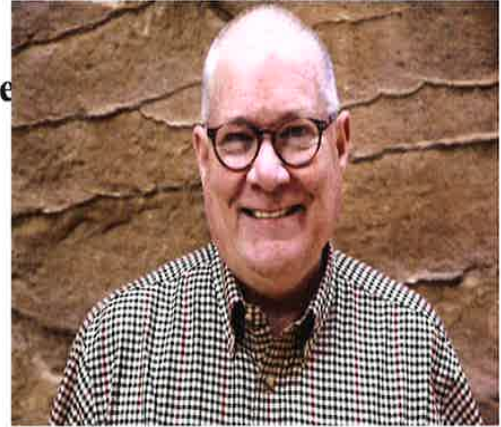
**ARUMC General and Jurisdictional Conference**

**Name:** Mackey Yokem

**Date:** 4/15/2015

**Email:** myokem@arumc.org

**Phone Number:** 479-871-8326



**Address:** 800 Daisy Bates Dr. City: Little Rock State: Arkansas Zip Code: 72202

**Please send this completed form, and a photo of yourself as a separate attachment, to [vicki.davis@arumc.org](mailto:vicki.davis@arumc.org) by April 15, 2015.**

**Membership:**

**Clergy** (*Clergy Member in Full Connection - Para. 35, 2012 Book of Discipline.*)

**Lay** (*A professing member of the United Methodist Church for at least two years preceding their election; and an active participant in the United Methodist Church for at least four years preceding their election; and a member of a church within the Arkansas Annual Conference - Para. 36, 2012 Book of Discipline. Lay delegates need not be voting members of the Annual Conference to be elected.*)

**District:**

Please select your district. Central District

**Church:**

What is your local church? Pulaski Heights

**Commitment as a Delegate and Christian Conferencing Guidelines:**

**I have read and accept the [Christian Conferencing Guidelines](#).**

Yes

No

**Share your reasons for wanting to be a delegate.**

While many see our current state as a time of fear and chaos, I believe and am excited to think we are in a time that promises opportunity for deep change and renewed spiritual vigor. I believe I understand the Church well enough to help it find a way into its preferred future of proclaiming and living the Gospel in a rapidly changing world and culture. It is time for the general church to move away from "politics" and become focused on disciple making and faith-sharing. This conversation has been occurring within our annual conference and I believe it needs to occur at the denominational level. I believe my voice and experience can aid in defining a way forward so that the church will fulfill Jesus' desire to make disciples.

*Please limit to 150 words.*



**What leadership experiences have you had in the church or community that will help you do the work of the delegation?**

As a denomination, we are confronted with significant challenges that require serious and thoughtful leaders. I have had the opportunity to observe our church from many different perspectives: local church pastor, District Superintendent, Conference Staff and delegate to the 2012 General and Jurisdictional Conferences. In my current role as Executive Director of Mission and Ministry and Assistant to the Bishop, I am part of conversations with other leaders across the denomination. These vantage points, along with my passion for making disciples and my understanding of how General and Jurisdictional Conferences function, will aid me in serving as a responsible and committed delegate. I will be faithful to the task. I will pray, listen, study, do the homework and make the hard decisions that align with and reflect the Vision and Mission of the United Methodist Church.

*Please limit to 150 words.*

**Share three (3) areas crucial to The United Methodist Church's mission to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world:**

- 1) Unity within the church. How are we going to live as a global church when our cultures are so diverse? In the midst of our differences, we must focus on the leading of the Holy Spirit to help us see beyond our differences and bring obedience to the will and hope of God.
- 2) Role of Leaders, especially among our Bishops and District Superintendents by selecting spirit-filled leaders and training them in mission field strategies so that conferences can benefit from servant/leaders who are able to guide conferences and congregations into identifying and serving neighborhoods and local mission fields.
- 3) Alignment of General Conference structures so that we better support churches that are growing in or showing potential for vitality. The general church should enable and strengthen local churches and annual conferences so that they are empowered and free in their ability to make disciples in their neighborhoods and mission fields.

*Please limit to 150 words.*

**What are three (3) issues emerging from those areas you stated above:**

- 1) A renewed focus on the role of General Conference to bring unity in the midst of diversity and further define the identity of United Methodism in the world.
- 2) Continued refinement of the District Superintendent as District Mission Strategist and the responsibilities and role of a Bishop.
- 3) Proposed changes allowing for "Regional" Conferences and aligning the budget of the general church to leave more resources at the local church level for the purpose of addressing mission field needs.

*Please limit to 150 words.*



# Lay Profiles

*LAY* (alphabetical order)

1. **Bates, Brandon**, St. James UMC, Little Rock
2. **Bradke, Matt**, Bryant FUMC
3. **Burris, Todd**, Conway FUMC
4. **Dunn, Katye**, Pulaski Heights UMC
5. **Fink, Elizabeth**, Highlands UMC
6. **Forehand, Kyle**, Pulaski Heights UMC
7. **Hughes, Harold**, Quapaw Quarter UMC
8. **Long, Charles**, Beebe FUMC
9. **Mann, Karon**, Pulaski Heights UMC
10. **Markley, James**, Bay UMC
11. **Mathews, Sheri**, Bismarck UMC
12. **Millar, Karen**, Searcy FUMC
13. **Moore, J. Harris**, Living Waters
14. **Pitt, Drew**, Quapaw Quarter UMC
15. **Prange, LauraJo**, Dewitt FUMC
16. **Robb, Jim**, St. Paul's UMC, Harrison
17. **Swain, Brian**, Central UMC, Fayetteville
18. **Whitaker, Asa**, Batesville FUMC
19. **Wilbourn, Miller**, Pulaski Heights UMC

**ARUMC General and Jurisdictional Conference Self Nomination Form**

**Name:** Brandon Bates

**Date:** 4/8/15

**Email:** brandon (at) stjames-umc.org

**Phone Number:** 501.217.6728

**Address:** 321 Pleasant Valley Dr. City: Little Rock State: AR Zip Code: 72212

Please send this completed form, and a photo of yourself as a separate attachment to [vicki.davis@arumc.org](mailto:vicki.davis@arumc.org) by **April 15, 2015**.



**Membership:**

- Clergy** (*Clergy Member in Full Connection - Para. 35, 2012 Book of Discipline.*)
- Lay** (*A professing member of the United Methodist Church for at least two years preceding their election; and an active participant in the United Methodist Church for at least four years preceding their election; and a member of a church within the Arkansas Annual Conference - Para. 36, 2012 Book of Discipline. Lay delegates need not be voting members of the Annual Conference to be elected.*)

**District:**

Please select your district. Central District

**Church:**

What is your local church? St. James UMC

**Commitment as a Delegate and Christian Conferencing Guidelines:**

**I have read and accept the [Christian Conferencing Guidelines](#).**

- Yes  
 No

**Share your reasons for wanting to be a delegate.**

*Please limit to 150 words.*

As a young adult and a youth minister, I believe that the voices of young adults and youth are underrepresented at General and Jurisdictional Conference. That was further apparent when I observed at General Conference 2012 and was an alternate at Jurisdictional Conference that same year. Fresh and new ideas, willingness to try new things, being missional, and being globally-minded are characteristics of young adults and especially youth. These characteristics parallel much of the church, but more should be done to intertwine the church, these characteristics, and young people. I feel that the message and representation of Christ through the UMC is ideal for young people, and the fact that over half of the world's population is 30 or younger, we have a big calling ahead of us. I want to continue to be part of us answering that call.

**What leadership experiences have you had in the church or community that will help you do the work of the delegation?**

*Please limit to 150 words.*

Previously: 2012 Jurisdictional Conference reserve delegate, District Youth Coordinator- 6 years, Conference Youth Coordinator- 7 years, Jurisdictional Youth Coordinator- 3 years, Representative to Global Young People's Convocation and Legislative Assembly (sponsored by Board of Discipleship) 2 times, Conference Vision Team- 6 years, Delegate to Annual Conference- 14 years  
Currently: Conference Youth Council Resource Adult- 5 years, Conference Youth Ministry Resource Team- 3 years, Mount Eagle Board of Trustees- 3 years, District Delegate to Annual Conference, Youth Minister-16 years

**Share three (3) areas crucial to The United Methodist Church's mission to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world:**

*Please limit to 150 words.*

- 1- Be more globally focused and sensitive and look like our communities throughout the world.
- 2- Greater understanding of, ministry to, and ministry with young people.
- 3- Being more missional and less institutional.

**What are three (3) issues emerging from those areas you stated above:**

*Please limit to 150 words.*

- 1- How do we allow for a framework for the UMC to be understood in the context of local culture instead of an American context being the guiding principles of the UMC throughout the world.
- 2- We are continually neglecting those 30 and younger. We seem apprehensive to take chances to engage with and reach this generation. If we have no desire to do so, then we should be up front about it. If we do have this desire and call to reach this generation then let us do it well and do it quickly.
- 3- Many times our focus seems to be on maintaining the institution instead of serving Christ and serving people. There seems to be a need to look the following: how itineracy in the 21st century could look, how apportionments play a factor in local and global ministries, new contexts for creating new ways for people to worship and serve.

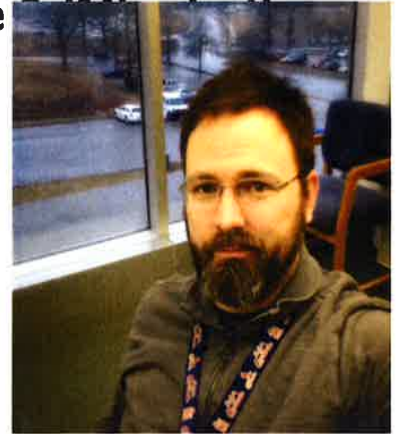
## ARUMC General and Jurisdictional Conference Form

**Name:** Matthew (Matt) Bradke

**Date:** 03/24/2015

**Email:** matthew.bradke@att.net

**Phone Number:** 501-920-3570



**Address:** 11908 Stonegate Dr. City: Alexander State: AR Zip Code: 72002

Please send this completed form, and a photo of yourself as a separate attachment, to [vicki.davis@arumc.org](mailto:vicki.davis@arumc.org) by **April 15, 2015**.

### Membership:

**Clergy** (*Clergy Member in Full Connection - Para. 35, 2012 Book of Discipline.*)

**Lay** (*A professing member of the United Methodist Church for at least two years preceding their election; and an active participant in the United Methodist Church for at least four years preceding their election; and a member of a church within the Arkansas Annual Conference - Para. 36, 2012 Book of Discipline. Lay delegates need not be voting members of the Annual Conference to be elected.*)

### District:

Please select your district. Central District

### Church:

What is your local church? First UMC of Bryant, Arkansas

### Commitment as a Delegate and Christian Conferencing Guidelines:

**I have read and accept the [Christian Conferencing Guidelines](#).**

Yes

No

### Share your reasons for wanting to be a delegate.

*Please limit to 150 words.*

I feel uniquely capable of being an effective delegate. My age (38), approachable demeanor, central location, moderate level of education, and other middling circumstances help to connect me with many different groups of people. If I'm able to connect with opposing groups and help them reach resolutions, then I want to.

The connectivity of the church creates a strong effective system, yet we continue to look for improvement when it can be found. I want to approach this poised atmosphere as a delegate who can feel and translate that energy into great outcomes for the church as a whole.

I see oppression of all sorts in the world, and my heart is moved. I am moved not to throw my hands up and wait for a savior to come and fix it, but to roll up my sleeves and continue the work THE Savior has already set us to doing.

**What leadership experiences have you had in the church or community that will help you do the work of the delegation?**

*Please limit to 150 words.*

College introduced me to many leadership roles: Student Government Association, Resident Hall Association, and others. As President of our Campus Activities Board, I was called to represent my college at regional conferences.

Now a professional at the Health Department, I have traveled each county of Arkansas. I occasionally participate in regional events, attending conferences and performing audits as a representative to and for the EPA. Teaching part-time for PTC in the evenings places me in front of classrooms, which I believe is also a great form of leadership.

At Bryant FUMC, I have facilitated multiple Disciple courses. Serving as Lay Leader, I am connecting with people to help with communication and coherence. I continue to help with as many missions and events as I am able. For Bryant, I have also served as Lay Member to the Annual Conference, where I believe my insight and interpretations have helped other members.

**Share three (3) areas crucial to The United Methodist Church's mission to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world:**

*Please limit to 150 words.*

Every person's heart is crucial to the mission of the church. The Holy Spirit shines brightest here, in leading us as individuals to open our eyes and learn through works of piety. We, the church, must devote ourselves to promoting that ideal for all people.

As Jesus taught us, we have a community to live in and provide for. It's crucial our works of mercy don't cease. Part of making his disciples is actually BEING some of those disciples working for transformation.

The Holy Spirit leads us as congregations, too. The time I most perceive God the Father, comes when my local church gathers together to worship. It is the place where piety and mercy meet. The same instant a sermon is teaching us, it can help us recall grace that we have known and ask us to turn around and show that grace inside and outside our walls.

**What are three (3) issues emerging from those areas you stated above:**

**RESPOND:** Individuals being called to action or service must not only realize it, but respond to it. Many times in my life, I've seen a need and felt a call, but not followed through. Have you ever disregarded, breezed over, or simply forgotten something God asked you to do?

**PROMOTE COMPASSION:** There are many issues outside the church. From human trafficking to gossip, we continue making a difference by showing and teaching compassion.

**CELEBRATE:** There will always be divisive topics to threaten the church's unity. Some big ones now are questions of sexuality and marriage, but there are many others. We can not just agree to disagree. We must take the time and effort to listen and understand someone else's point of view. We can then find the ways to make a divisive topic a cohesive one. Much like celebrating a thorn in the flesh, we can embrace our differences.

*Please limit to 150 words.*



## ARUMC General and Jurisdictional Conference Self

**Name:** Todd Burris

**Date:** April 15, 2015

**Email:** [tburris@arumc.org](mailto:tburris@arumc.org)

**Phone Number:** 501-324-8024

**Address:** 245 Castleberry Dr. **City:** Conway **State:** Ar **Zip Code:** 72034

Please send this completed form, and a photo of yourself as a separate attachment to [vicki.davis@arumc.org](mailto:vicki.davis@arumc.org) by **April 15, 2015**.



### Membership:

**Clergy** (*Clergy Member in Full Connection - Para. 35, 2012 Book of Discipline.*)

**Lay** (*A professing member of the United Methodist Church for at least two years preceding their election; and an active participant in the United Methodist Church for at least four years preceding their election; and a member of a church within the Arkansas Annual Conference - Para. 36, 2012 Book of Discipline. Lay delegates need not be voting members of the Annual Conference to be elected.*)

### District:

Please select your district. Central District

### Church:

What is your local church? Conway First

### Commitment as a Delegate and Christian Conferencing Guidelines:

**I have read and accept the [Christian Conferencing Guidelines](#).**

Yes

No

### Share your reasons for wanting to be a delegate.

In 2012 I served as a delegate to General Conference. It was a fantastic learning experience about the church I've been a member of all my life. Over the past year I have assisted in teaching a confirmation class at my church. That experience has renewed a passion to share our Wesleyan heritage with others, especially youth. It is that passion that drives me to seek this opportunity so that I may help shape the church to reach future generations.

*Please limit to 150 words.*



**What leadership experiences have you had in the church or community that will help you do the work of the delegation?**

I currently serve as Conference Treasurer. In that role I work with the Conference Council on Finance and Administration, Trustees, and Pensions Committees. I have previously served on the Conference Board of Ordained Ministry and many committees at my church in Conway. I am equally comfortable learning, teaching, or leading groups. I have worked closely with clergy and laity at all levels of the church over my twenty years with the Conference.

*Please limit to 150 words.*

**Share three (3) areas crucial to The United Methodist Church's mission to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world:**

1. Equip and train the next generation of clergy and lay leaders.
2. Share the good news with our neighbors regardless of race, gender, or sexual orientation.
3. Rediscover our Wesleyan heritage as a movement from its members, and not an organization stuck in its traditions.

*Please limit to 150 words.*

**What are three (3) issues emerging from those areas you stated above:**

1. We must continue to recruit not only ordained ministers, but also individuals with a passion for specialized ministry to lead our churches. While not everyone is called to ordained ministry, we are all called to ministry of love and service.
2. and 3. Local churches that do not represent the neighborhoods that surround them are at risk of failing. The church should be focused on reaching our neighbors by equipping and training its members. Failing to do so will make us irrelevant at best and extinct at worst.

*Please limit to 150 words.*

## ARUMC General and Jurisdictional Conference Self Nomination Form

**Name:** Katye Dunn

**Date:** 4/6/2015

**Email:** [katyedunn@gmail.com](mailto:katyedunn@gmail.com)

**Phone Number:** 501-766-5858

**Address:** 2110 Sherman Ave. Apt. 2W City: Evanston State: IL Zip Code: 60201

Please send this completed form, and a photo of yourself as a separate attachment, to [vicki.davis@arumc.org](mailto:vicki.davis@arumc.org) by **April 15, 2015**.



### Membership:

- Clergy** (*Clergy Member in Full Connection - Para. 35, 2012 Book of Discipline.*)
- Lay** (*A professing member of the United Methodist Church for at least two years preceding their election; and an active participant in the United Methodist Church for at least four years preceding their election; and a member of a church within the Arkansas Annual Conference - Para. 36, 2012 Book of Discipline. Lay delegates need not be voting members of the Annual Conference to be elected.*)

### District:

Please select your district. Central District

### Church:

What is your local church? Pulaski Heights United Methodist Church

### Commitment as a Delegate and Christian Conferencing Guidelines:

**I have read and accept the [Christian Conferencing Guidelines](#).**

- Yes  
 No

### Share your reasons for wanting to be a delegate.

I believe deeply in the future of the United Methodist Church, and as a delegate to Jurisdictional & General Conference I could be a part of helping lead the denomination I love into being all that it can be, embracing its call to make disciples and transform the world. As a current seminary student at Garrett-Evangelical, I'm being immersed in the doctrine and polity of the UMC that will help me make well-informed decisions about our work as a denomination. It is also important to me that youth & young adults participate in all levels of our connection, and I want to be a delegate so that I can represent my generation as a young United Methodist leader.

*Please limit to 150 words.*



**What leadership experiences have you had in the church or community that will help you do the work of the delegation?**

- Delegate to Global Young People’s Convocation 2010, Berlin, Germany
- Associate Youth Minister at Pulaski Heights UMC, Little Rock 2009-2013
- Central District (2009-2013) & Conference (2011-2013) Council on Youth Ministries
- At-Large Delegate to Annual Conference, 2010-2012 & 2014
- Board of Trustees, University of Arkansas at LR Wesley Foundation, 2011-2013
- Co-leader, PHUMC VIM Team to Haiti, 2011

*Please limit to 150 words.*

**Share three (3) areas crucial to The United Methodist Church's mission to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world:**

1. We need to do everything possible to raise up & equip youth and young adults for leadership in the denomination – both present and future, both lay and clergy! It is important to help young people discern their vocation and how they are called to serve God in the world.
2. We must continue our strong tradition of mission and justice throughout the world. The United Methodist Church must continue to be on the front lines, meeting the practical needs of all God’s people through programs & initiatives such as UMCOR, Imagine No Malaria, and advocacy work.
3. Our denomination must do a better job of creating inclusive communities if we want to be successful in inviting people to relationship & transformation. Divisions in the church based not only on sexual orientation but also on race, socio-economic status, age, etc. must be removed so that all people are welcome.

*Please limit to 150 words.*

**What are three (3) issues emerging from those areas you stated above:**

1. Vocational discernment is a crucial issue for the future of the UMC, not just for youth & young adults but for all people. People are yearning to feel like what they’re doing makes a difference, and the church can help them discover how to use their gifts for the building up of the Kingdom.
2. Making the most of our connectional system & denominational resources. By working together & tapping into the vast resources available to us, we can be 1) more informed and 2) more effective in our work at all levels of the denomination, from inter-cultural dialogue & mission at the global level to resourcing local congregations for their unique missional needs.
3. Full inclusion for all persons in the United Methodist Church. Specifically, the denomination must continue to address the ways in which the LGBTQ community is denied full participation in the life of the church.

*Please limit to 150 words.*



**Name:** Elizabeth Fink

**Date:** 04/15/2015

**Email:** efink@umcmmission.org

**Phone Number:** 479-200-6755

**Address:** 11500 NW 12<sup>th</sup> Ave City: Miami State: FL Zip Code: 33161

**Please send this completed form, and a photo of yourself as a separate attachment to [vicki.davis@arumc.org](mailto:vicki.davis@arumc.org) by April 15, 2015.**

**Membership:**

**Clergy** (*Clergy Member in Full Connection - Para. 35, 2012 Book of Discipline.*)

**Lay** (*A professing member of the United Methodist Church for at least two years preceding their election; and an active participant in the United Methodist Church for at least four years preceding their election; and a member of a church within the Arkansas Annual Conference - Para. 36, 2012 Book of Discipline. Lay delegates need not be voting members of the Annual Conference to be elected.*)

**District:**

Please select your district. Northwest District

**Church:**

What is your local church? Highlands United Methodist

**Commitment as a Delegate and Christian Conferencing Guidelines:**

**I have read and accept the [Christian Conferencing Guidelines](#).**

Yes

No

**Share your reasons for wanting to be a delegate.**

*Please limit to 150 words.*



I see the opportunity of representing our Annual Conference by serving as delegate to General Conference as a great honor, and one I won't take lightly. I love Arkansas and I love the United Methodist Church. Therefore I really want to take this opportunity to bring in a young persons voice for helping the church get back to the basics of build upon the corner stone, Jesus Christ. I want to be a voice that champions holiness. I don't want to just sit back and watch, but I want to be an active part of the solution. I want to help the United Methodist church regain and revive its spirit for unashamedly sharing the gospel and making dsiciples. My greatest hope is that we would all be in one accord and seek the Lord for his direction and wisdom regarding General Conference on every level! #Unashamed #WeNeedRevival

**What leadership experiences have you had in the church or community that will help you do the work of the delegation?**

*Please limit to 150 words.*

I have worked with people from all kinds of different backgrounds, ethnicities, and theologies. For example, I have served with AmeriCorps in Little Rock through Childrens International. I have learned to work with parents as a youth director, led small groups, and been responsible as a resident chaplain at Greenville College. Currently I serve as a Young Adult Missionary with the General Board of Global Ministries as a Financial Stability Associate. My role is to help low income people get out of financial crisis and reach financial stability. I also lead financial education workshops.

I have been on over 14 Missions Trips around the world and have had the opportunity to develop support groups for widows, organize feeding programs, teach bible classes, provide medical care, set up micro business loans for woman, etc.

Through all these different settings I have been able to gain a much better biblical worldview and understanding of what it means to be a connectional church globally.

**Share three (3) areas crucial to The United Methodist Church's mission to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world:**

*Please limit to 150 words.*

1. Offering Christ (evangelism): get out there with a holy boldness and offer people Christ. This is huge. This is not an option. We are called to make disciples, and you can't do that without first sharing the gospel.
2. Spiritual Formation (mentoring, accountability, spiritual disciplines).
3. Being Counter-Cultural (holiness): We are called to be in the world but not of the world. John Wesley urged the Methodists to pursue holiness of heart and life. Thus should be a more visible characteristic of our denomination. issues.

**What are three (3) issues emerging from those areas you stated above:**

*Please limit to 150 words.*



1. I believe and have even seen some within our denomination back away from evangelism because they fear offending people, they don't feel adequate in sharing their faith, or they do not believe Jesus is necessary for salvation. We need to strengthen and train our members to overcome that fear and step out in faith. If we aren't sharing the good news, than how do we expect to grow the Kingdom of God.
2. We need to be more intentional when it comes to mutual accountability, mentoring our young people, and practicing the spiritual disciplines. This is greatly needed in order to develop mature disciples.
3. I am not sure our lives look all that different from the rest of society. We often blend instead of stand out. The gospel itself is counter cultural, therefore we need to be compassionately counter cultural as well.

## ARUMC General and Jurisdictional Conference Self Nomination Form

**Name:** Kyle Forehand

**Date:** March 7, 2015

**Email:** forehandkyle@yahoo.com

**Phone Number:** 501-607-3531

**Address:** 1 Sharondale Place City: Maumelle State: AR Zip Code: 72113



Please send this completed form, and a photo of yourself as a separate attachment, to [vicki.davis@arumc.org](mailto:vicki.davis@arumc.org) by April 15, 2015.

### Membership:

**Clergy** (*Clergy Member in Full Connection - Para. 35, 2012 Book of Discipline.*)

**Lay** (*A professing member of the United Methodist Church for at least two years preceding their election; and an active participant in the United Methodist Church for at least four years preceding their election; and a member of a church within the Arkansas Annual Conference - Para. 36, 2012 Book of Discipline. Lay delegates need not be voting members of the Annual Conference to be elected.*)

### District:

Please select your district. Central District

### Church:

What is your local church? Pulaski Heights UMC

### Commitment as a Delegate and Christian Conferencing Guidelines:

**I have read and accept the [Christian Conferencing Guidelines](#).**

Yes

No

### Share your reasons for wanting to be a delegate.

There are two main reasons of my wanting to represent the Arkansas Conference at General Conference 2016. I believe that we need more youth/young adults to begin to fill positions such as this in order to allow them to take over the church and its governing body as the time comes. With that, the voice of the youth and young adults, of which I would represent as a whole for the AR Conference, needs to be heard, as we are the church of tomorrow, and the voices that will continue to carry on, only if not suppressed by those who will not hear us.

*Please limit to 150 words.*



**What leadership experiences have you had in the church or community that will help you do the work of the delegation?**

I have been a delegate and alternate delegate to the Conference for my church for many years. I have recently held an internship and position with The William J. Clinton Foundation, and serve on my churches Board of Stewards, now for almost 6 years. I have coordinated peace walks for nonviolence, and have presented successfully resolutions against bullying and gun violence to the Conference. I currently hold the position of All Greek Council representative for my professional fraternity, Phi Mu Alpha. I currently hold numerous leadership and secretarial positions within my alma mater, The Crane School of Music in New York. I am a current member of MFSA, following my great grandmother Lucy Foster. I have served as delegate for my school in numerous out-of-state music conferences.

*Please limit to 150 words.*

**Share three (3) areas crucial to The United Methodist Church's mission to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world:**

I believe that my local church's mission statement is a wonderful summary of what the UMC is striving to achieve to make disciples, as well as transform the world for the better.

- 1: "Love God." We must be able to proudly express our love to our God, confident in our beliefs, while understanding and accepting of other's.
2. "Love Neighbor." We must openly show our welcome, understanding, and inclusion of ALL people into our church, no matter what may classify them. For if we do not, we will watch the church die before our eyes, in our empty sanctuaries, watching the people who need us just stand outside.
3. "Change the World." It is up to us, and the generations after us to change the world, by doing the latter 2 points. We have a task to change the world for the better, to not only leave it better than we found it, but to show and teach others to do the same, no matter what may exclude them.

*Please limit to 150 words.*

**What are three (3) issues emerging from those areas you stated above:**

1. The Exclusion of people based on biasness: Such as the exclusion of LGBT communities, racial biasness, as well as refusing to understand and learn of the cultures different from one's own.
2. The Separation of Young Adults from the Church: I believe not enough focus is given to the young adult during crucial times in their lives, thus opening a door to let them leave the church, and thus causing the church to die.
3. The Separation of Bodies within the Church: Too many groups and organizations have threatened a split from the UMC just because they cant get their way. I believe that we need to realize that we all serve the same God and Lord, through thoughtful discussion and deliberation, be able to achieve the goals that our Lord has for us, all through an understanding of biblical text, the views of ALL people, as well as a mutual love and respect of one another through the love of Christ, Jesus our Lord.

*Please limit to 150 words.*



#7

## ARUMC General and Jurisdictional Conference Self Nomination Form

**Name:** Harold Hughes

**Date:** 2/12/2015

**Email:** rainbowharold@yahoo.com

**Phone Number:** 501.612.0902



**Address:** 621 Cumberland St Apt 4 **City:** Little Rock **State:** AR **Zip Code:** 72202

Please send this completed form, and a photo of yourself as a separate attachment, to [vicki.davis@arumc.org](mailto:vicki.davis@arumc.org) by **April 15, 2015**.

### Membership:

**Clergy** (*Clergy Member in Full Connection - Para. 35, 2012 Book of Discipline.*)

**Lay** (*A professing member of the United Methodist Church for at least two years preceding their election; and an active participant in the United Methodist Church for at least four years preceding their election; and a member of a church within the Arkansas Annual Conference - Para. 36, 2012 Book of Discipline. Lay delegates need not be voting members of the Annual Conference to be elected.*)

### District:

Please select your district. Central District

### Church:

What is your local church? Quapaw Quarter

### Commitment as a Delegate and Christian Conferencing Guidelines:

**I have read and accept the [Christian Conferencing Guidelines](#).**

Yes

No

### Share your reasons for wanting to be a delegate.

*Please limit to 150 words.*



I have been a member of the Arkansas Conference for many years now, and would like to offer my skillset and experience to the United Methodist Church at the Jurisdictional and Conference level. I have a great interest in seeing us fulfill our mission of creating disciples and in making our promise of "Open Hearts, Open Minds, and Open Doors" a reality for those in need of our unique Wesleyan message.

**What leadership experiences have you had in the church or community that will help you do the work of the delegation?**

*Please limit to 150 words.*

I have been involved in the UMC at the Conference and local level for years now. I am a Lay Servant in the Central District. I have been a Lay Member of the Arkansas Conference and the Central District since 2007 and active in the Arkansas Chapter of MFSA and (open)ARMs even longer. I am Social Justice Coordinator at my local church and have served on many committees and leadership groups there, including Connected in Christ. I currently serve on the board of the Arkansas Interfaith Committee for Worker Justice and the Center for Artistic revolution, and Arkansas- based rights organization. This extensive experience in church and secular work involving labor, race, gender, and human sexuality would give a nice dose of justice to our delegation.

**Share three (3) areas crucial to The United Methodist Church's mission to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world:**

*Please limit to 150 words.*

1. increasing availability of the Church's message of welcome and inclusion to everyone
2. taking a leadership role on social justice issues and providing Biblically influenced guidance on solving them
3. finding the "via media" on matters in which we do not agree, so we carry the light out of our church buildings instead of infighting

**What are three (3) issues emerging from those areas you stated above:**

*Please limit to 150 words.*

1. full inclusion of LGBTQ Christians in the church through removal of hostile language in the Discipline
2. advocacy for global equal access to potable water and elimination of disease, condemnation of ethnic cleansing, condemnation of war and pursuit of peace, and human trafficking
3. striving to act like the church instead of a confederacy of enemies

**ARUMC General and Jurisdictional Conference Self Nomination Form**

**Name:** Charles Long

**Date:** Feb. 13,2015

**Email:** cagmlong@yahoo.com

**Phone Number:** 501.882.1146 or 5016260881

**Address:** 503 Brandon Drive City: Beebe State: AR Zip Code: 72012

Please send this completed form, and a photo of yourself as a separate attachment to [vicki.davis@arumc.org](mailto:vicki.davis@arumc.org) by **April 15, 2015**.



**Membership:**

**Clergy** (*Clergy Member in Full Connection - Para. 35, 2012 Book of Discipline.*)

**Lay** (*A professing member of the United Methodist Church for at least two years preceding their election; and an active participant in the United Methodist Church for at least four years preceding their election; and a member of a church within the Arkansas Annual Conference - Para. 36, 2012 Book of Discipline. Lay delegates need not be voting members of the Annual Conference to be elected.*)

**District:**

Please select your district. Northeast District

**Church:**

What is your local church? First United Methodist Church of Beebe,AR

**Commitment as a Delegate and Christian Conferencing Guidelines:**

**I have read and accept the [Christian Conferencing Guidelines](#).**

Yes

No

**Share your reasons for wanting to be a delegate.**

*Please limit to 150 words.*





I have been a Methodist for over sixty years. I have served on every local committee that exists. I am now the Local Lay Leader and the District Lay Leader. I am serving on three Launch teams of the Bishop's Mission Plan. I am also a lay speaker, a Sunday School teacher and officer of the United Methodist Men. While I have grown by being blessed to serve in all of these positions, all of them have been on the local, district, and conference levels. I think in order to do my service well on the local level it would be great to have some experience on the general and jurisdictional level. I feel very strongly that our church must change in order to grow. Not change for the sake of change, but change that facilitates taking the gospel outside our walls.

**What leadership experiences have you had in the church or community that will help you do the work of the delegation?**

*Please limit to 150 words.*

In addition to the above, I worked for a major utility (Entergy) and helped the company initiate a cultural change from 'business as usual' to a Quality Improvement environment. I work on many teams to bring the change into being. We worked hard to change the way we did almost everything. The result was improved efficiency and improved morale throughout the company. This is the model I think the church is trying to create. I am on the Board of the local Shepherd Center which is a non-denominational gathering and learning center for our senior citizens. The jurisdictional area is where the changes that must be made will have to begin. I would like to help with that effort.

**Share three (3) areas crucial to The United Methodist Church's mission to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world:**

*Please limit to 150 words.*

1. We must become a very serious praying community of not just believers but disciples.
2. We must create an atmosphere of accountability. It is the corner stone of progress.
3. All laity, and clergy if needed, must learn the details of reaching out. The better someone is trained the less fear there is in the task.

**What are three (3) issues emerging from those areas you stated above:**

*Please limit to 150 words.*

- 1 Prayer leads to faith. Faith leads to discipleship. Discipleship leads to outreach.
2. While we would prefer that people work in an area of no accountability the same as if they were working in an area of high accountability, we know that is not reality. Clergy and laity alike have to accept some sort of accountability. Otherwise nothing will change because there is no incentive to change.
3. Many laity do not embrace outreach because they do not feel capable. Some sort of training would be beneficial.

Name: Karon Mann

Date: 4/15/15

Email: karon57@comcast.net

Phone Number: 501-225-7971

Address: 1806 Martha Drive City: Little Rock State: AR Zip Code: 72212

Please send this completed form, and a photo of yourself as a separate attachment to [vicki.davis@arumc.org](mailto:vicki.davis@arumc.org) by **April 15, 2015**.



**Membership:**

**Clergy** (*Clergy Member in Full Connection - Para. 35, 2012 Book of Discipline.*)

**Lay** (*A professing member of the United Methodist Church for at least two years preceding their election; and an active participant in the United Methodist Church for at least four years preceding their election; and a member of a church within the Arkansas Annual Conference - Para. 36, 2012 Book of Discipline. Lay delegates need not be voting members of the Annual Conference to be elected.*)

**District:**

Please select your district. Central District

**Church:**

What is your local church? Pulaski Heights

**Commitment as a Delegate and Christian Conferencing Guidelines:**

**I have read and accept the [Christian Conferencing Guidelines](#).**

Yes

No

**Share your reasons for wanting to be a delegate.**

*Please limit to 150 words.*

I love the United Methodist Church and believe God can use our church in great ways! The issues before the church are big and some of them continue to divide us. I believe unity is the best way forward for our church and I will use my ability to listen and understand other viewpoints in all discussion and preparation for General or Jurisdictional Conference. Relationships I have developed in the course of my work at the conference and general church level have prepared me to see and understand different points of view. I believe strongly in Christian Conferencing and believe the Holy Spirit can lead our church to fulfill our vision of making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. I have strong organizational skills and am willing to spend the necessary time in preparation for General and Jurisdictional Conferences.

**What leadership experiences have you had in the church or community that will help you do the work of the delegation?**

*Please limit to 150 words.*

Arkansas Conference Lay Leader since 2012; elected to General and Jurisdictional Conference in 2012 and 2008; currently serving 2<sup>nd</sup> term on United Methodist Women national board of directors; member General Board of Global Ministries board of directors 2008-2012; member United Methodist Development Fund board of directors 2008-2016; president Arkansas Conference UMW 2006-2008; Camp Aldersgate board of directors 2006-present; 1996-2005 member of Arkansas Conference (and Little Rock Conference) Council on Finance and Administration; various conference and district level UMW positions 1995-2004.

**Share three (3) areas crucial to The United Methodist Church's mission to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world:**

*Please limit to 150 words.*

1. Developing and strengthening lay leadership: Laity embracing their role in the church and living out their discipleship in Christ-like, spirit filled communities of faith that serve their neighborhood and the world.
2. The worldwide nature of the church: Successful structuring of our worldwide church that creates deeper connections and greater equality among different parts of the church.
3. Focus on beliefs we share in common: Prayerfully seeking a new way forward.

**What are three (3) issues emerging from those areas you stated above:**

*Please limit to 150 words.*

The most important emerging issues involve teaching and training leadership, both lay and clergy: How can laity and clergy best partner in ministry to create vital congregations? What will it take to effectively equip our congregations to make disciples? How can our connection (both general church and Arkansas Conference) resource laity at the local level with tools they need?

## ARUMC General and Jurisdictional Conference Self Nomination Form

**Name:**

James E. Markley

**Date:** 2/11/15

**Email:** jmarkley51@gmail.com

**Phone Number:** 870-761-5400



**Address:** 1212 Stone Creek Ln City: Jonesboro State: AR Zip Code: 72401

Please send this completed form, and a photo of yourself as a separate attachment, to [vicki.davis@arumc.org](mailto:vicki.davis@arumc.org) by **April 15, 2015**.

**Membership:**

**Clergy** (*Clergy Member in Full Connection - Para. 35, 2012 Book of Discipline.*)

**Lay** (*A professing member of the United Methodist Church for at least two years preceding their election; and an active participant in the United Methodist Church for at least four years preceding their election; and a member of a church within the Arkansas Annual Conference - Para. 36, 2012 Book of Discipline. Lay delegates need not be voting members of the Annual Conference to be elected.*)

**District:**

Please select your district. Northeast District

**Church:**

What is your local church? Bay UMC

**Commitment as a Delegate and Christian Conferencing Guidelines:**

**I have read and accept the [Christian Conferencing Guidelines](#).**

- Yes  
 No

**Share your reasons for wanting to be a delegate.**

I want to serve the United Methodist Church in any way I can.

Note: the document for Christian Conferencing Guidelines would not open. I was unable to read it.

*Please limit to 150 words.*

**What leadership experiences have you had in the church or community that will help you do the work of the delegation?**

Congregational Coach  
Certified Lay Servant  
NED Director of Lay Servant Ministries  
Campus Pastor Nettleton Community Church (a campus of FUMC Jonesboro)  
Conference Committee for Equitable Compensation

*Please limit to 150 words.*

**Share three (3) areas crucial to The United Methodist Church's mission to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world:**

1. Experience Spiritual Revival.
2. Establish the mission field as the primary focus of attention.
3. Equip laity and clergy to transform individuals, communities, and the world.

*Please limit to 150 words.*

**What are three (3) issues emerging from those areas you stated above:**

1. As membership continues to shrink funding for ministry is shrinking.
2. Many churches in the conference are inwardly focused unwilling to get out of their comfort zone and serve the local community.
3. More churches must be willing to become outwardly focused to serve the local community.

*Please limit to 150 words.*



## ARUMC General and Jurisdictional Conference Self Nomination Form

**Name:** Sheri A Mathews

**Date:** March 25, 2015

**Email:** sheriamathews@gmail.com

**Phone Number:** 501-276-3544

**Address:** 5300 Hickory Grove Rd City: Bismarek State: AR Zip Code: 71929

Please send this completed form, and a photo of yourself as a separate attachment to [vicki.davis@arumc.org](mailto:vicki.davis@arumc.org) by **April 15, 2015**.



**Membership:**

**Clergy** (*Clergy Member in Full Connection - Para. 35, 2012 Book of Discipline.*)

**Lay** (*A professing member of the United Methodist Church for at least two years preceding their election; and an active participant in the United Methodist Church for at least four years preceding their election; and a member of a church within the Arkansas Annual Conference - Para. 36, 2012 Book of Discipline. Lay delegates need not be voting members of the Annual Conference to be elected.*)

**District:**

Please select your district. Southwest District

**Church:**

What is your local church? Bismarek UMC

**Commitment as a Delegate and Christian Conferencing Guidelines:**

**I have read and accept the [Christian Conferencing Guidelines](#).**

Yes

No

**Share your reasons for wanting to be a delegate.**

\*I believe it is important to be a vital part of the church.  
\* The best way to keep the church alive is to be active in sharing the Word. If me being a delegate reaches just one person and helps them become a believer, them I am fulfilling my calling.

*Please limit to 150 words.*





**What leadership experiences have you had in the church or community that will help you do the work of the delegation?**

\* For the last three (3) years I have been the Laity to Conference for BUMC, and the Spiritual and Emotional Care Team Supervisor for the Arkansas Conference of the United Methodist Church. With this duty I have had extensive training from UMCOR, NCTSN (National Children's Traumatic Stress Network), Red Cross, Children's Disaster Service, SC Jurisdiction, and ARUMC. Most of this training focused on how to help others no matter what their race, religious, or cultural beliefs are.

*Please limit to 150 words.*

**Share three (3) areas crucial to The United Methodist Church's mission to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world:**

- \* Children - Family - Ourselves
- \*Community
- \*World view on different races.

*Please limit to 150 words.*

**What are three (3) issues emerging from those areas you stated above:**

It is like disaster relief: First we must take care of ourselves, and our family/home. If we are worried about these, we are not going to be any good to help the church's mission.

\*If we don't first transform ourselves, and our families into true Children of GOD, our congregations will dwindle and die. Instilling values, love, and hope into our children and ourselves will free our hearts and minds to help others. In doing this, we show the love of GOD.

\*In general, communities battle within themselves. If we could help them work together we could be more productive and start branching out to the counties, states, etc..

\*This has been "The Battle of the Ages"!!! In a perfect world, we would love each other for what's inside, not out. The General Conference is a great place to work on this. If we are able, in the near future, to have GC outside the US it would greatly help this. Mixing different cultures together helps show respect, trust, and understanding... With this comes the love of GOD.

Just think, all those Methodist, all that Love, spreading through another country.... AWESOME!

*Please limit to 150 words.*

## ARUMC General and Jurisdictional Conference

**Name:** Karen L. Millar

**Date:** April 15, 2015

**Email:** karenlmillar@hotmail.com

**Phone Number:** 501-268-4859



**Address:** 33 Country Club Circle City: Searcy State: Arkansas Zip Code: 72143

Please send this completed form, and a photo of yourself as a separate attachment, to [vicki.davis@arumc.org](mailto:vicki.davis@arumc.org) by **April 15, 2015**.

### Membership:

**Clergy** (*Clergy Member in Full Connection - Para. 35, 2012 Book of Discipline.*)

**Lay** (*A professing member of the United Methodist Church for at least two years preceding their election; and an active participant in the United Methodist Church for at least four years preceding their election; and a member of a church within the Arkansas Annual Conference - Para. 36, 2012 Book of Discipline. Lay delegates need not be voting members of the Annual Conference to be elected.*)

### District:

Please select your district. Northeast District

### Church:

What is your local church? First United Methodist in Searcy, AR.

### Commitment as a Delegate and Christian Conferencing Guidelines:

**I have read and accept the [Christian Conferencing Guidelines](#).**

Yes

No

### Share your reasons for wanting to be a delegate.

Although I believe every General Conference and Jurisdictional Conference has been critical, I think 2016 will be especially important to the future of the United Methodists worldwide. I have deep concerns about our membership losses, the lack of due process when pastors and Bishops break covenant regarding matters relating to the Discipline, and numerous proposals for splitting the Church. I can devote the time and energy in order to be an effective delegate in 2016. My past experience as a delegate will help me be prepared for the plenaries and the committee meetings. I would consider it a great honor to serve as a delegate to the 2016 General and Jurisdictional conferences.

*Please limit to 150 words.*



**What leadership experiences have you had in the church or community that will help you do the work of the delegation?**

General Conference and Jurisdictional delegate 2000, 2004, 2008, and 2012; Sunday School teacher, adults, 4 years; teacher for 2 year olds, 30 years; Chair of SPR; Secretary for local UMW; Disciple Bible study teacher, Lay Director for Walk to Emmaus; President and volunteer for Hope Cottage (a shelter for abused women and children); Chair of Searcy Housing Authority; White County Community Foundation President; CASA of White County chair; and Habitat for Humanity chair. Each of these positions have taught me to be humble, prepared, and able to appreciate and work with people who have very different ideas and goals than mine.

*Please limit to 150 words.*

**Share three (3) areas crucial to The United Methodist Church's mission to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world:**

1. Trust in our leaders
2. Reclaiming our Wesleyan heritage that is rooted and grounded in Scripture, the centrality of Jesus Christ as the Son and Savior, and the power and life changing work of the Holy Spirit
3. Unity

*Please limit to 150 words.*

**What are three (3) issues emerging from those areas you stated above:**

1. Accountability for Bishops, the CT, the Judicial Council, seminaries, Boards and agencies, and the local church.
2. Spiritual renewal first instead of new programs and plans.
3. Instead of showing the world how divided we are, we should be showing them an explosion of social holiness, resulting in revival and renewal in the United Methodist Church.

*Please limit to 150 words.*

## ARUMC General and Jurisdictional Conference Self Nomination Form

**Name:** J. Harris Moore

**Date:** 3/24/2015

**Email:** Modavi1949@yahoo.com

**Phone Number:** 479-409-3262

**Address:** 1407 Sanford Dr. **City:** Bentonville **State:** AR **Zip Code:** 72712

Please send this completed form, and a photo of yourself as a separate attachment to [vicki.davis@arumc.org](mailto:vicki.davis@arumc.org) by **April 15, 2015**.



**Membership:**

**Clergy** (*Clergy Member in Full Connection - Para. 35, 2012 Book of Discipline.*)

**Lay** (*A professing member of the United Methodist Church for at least two years preceding their election; and an active participant in the United Methodist Church for at least four years preceding their election; and a member of a church within the Arkansas Annual Conference - Para. 36, 2012 Book of Discipline. Lay delegates need not be voting members of the Annual Conference to be elected.*)

**District:**

Please select your district. Northwest District

**Church:**

What is your local church? Living Waters

**Commitment as a Delegate and Christian Conferencing Guidelines:**

**I have read and accept the [Christian Conferencing Guidelines](#).**

Yes

No

**Share your reasons for wanting to be a delegate.**

To give the delegation a multi-culture and multi-racial viewpoint in making decisions at the General Conference. My years as a leader on the local, district, conference, and General Church levels. My wellness to listen to all sides of the discussion.

*Please limit to 150 words.*



**What leadership experiences have you had in the church or community that will help you do the work of the delegation?**

34 years as a leader in the UMC from in the local church all the way to the Annual Conference as Chairperson and member of various committes, boards and commission , 12 years as a member of the Board of Directors of the General Board of Church and Society and the General Commission on Religion and Race. 18+ years in Native American Ministry.General and Jurisdictional Conference delegation 5 times. Co-Chair the International Bioethnic Task Force 4 years for the UMC. A Sociologist .

*Please limit to 150 words.*

**Share three (3) areas crucial to The United Methodist Church's mission to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world:**

1. How to be Christian community with an orginational structure that can meet the needs of it people from a Global perspective.
2. Spiritual focus more than a societal and culture focus.
3. Restructing to meet the Spritual needs more than to save money.

*Please limit to 150 words.*

**What are three (3) issues emerging from those areas you stated above:**

How much power is the American UMC willing to give to the Central Conferences?  
More Concern about making Disciple of Jesus Christ than what social changes our members are calling for at this time.  
How much restructuring is needed before the restructuring is not Spritual base?

*Please limit to 150 words.*

**ARUMC General and Jurisdictional Conference Self Nomination Form!**

Name: **Drew Pritt**

Date: **April 11, 2015!**

Email: **[drewpritt@gmail.com](mailto:drewpritt@gmail.com)**

Phone Number: **1.501.658.6147!**



Address: **1315 Scott Street, Apt. C** City: **Little Rock** State: **AR** Zip Code: **72202** !

Please send this completed form, and a photo of yourself as a separate attachment, to [vicki.davis@arumc.org](mailto:vicki.davis@arumc.org) by **April 15, 2015!**

Membership: **Quapaw Quarter United Methodist Church!**

**Clergy** (*Clergy Member in Full Connection - Para. 35, 2012 Book of Discipline.*)!

**XLay** (*A professing member of the United Methodist Church for at least two years preceding their election; and an active participant in the United Methodist Church for at least four years preceding their election; and a member of a church within the Arkansas Annual Conference - Para. 36, 2012 Book of Discipline. Lay delegates need not be voting members of the Annual Conference to be elected.*)!

District: **Central!**

Please select your district.

Church: **Quapaw Quarter United Methodist Church!**

What is your local church? !





**Commitment as a Delegate and Christian Conferencing Guidelines:**

**I have read and accept the [Christian Conferencing Guidelines](#).**

Yes

No

**Share your reasons for wanting to be a delegate.**

*Please limit to 150 words.*

I have prayed and thought long and hard about this before placing myself for consideration. I am an active member of QQUMC. I am committed to the mission we all are called as children of God and I wish to see that commitment moved forward with a reasoned dilligence and concerted effort.

**What leadership experiences have you had in the church or community that will help you do the work of the delegation?**

*Please limit to 150 words.*

I actually am the son of a Presbyterian minister, have 3 years experience as a camp counselor, sang in the church choir, helped with the feeding ministry, been on mission trips, was an officer at the Wesley Foundation in college, and am an active member of my church. I come with one who has seen all the facets of the church in many ways. Also I served at 3 different GC's of the Episcopal Denomination in the House of Bishops as Support Staff.

**Share three (3) areas crucial to The United Methodist Church's mission to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world:**

*Please limit to 150 words.*

We have to start meeting our Brothers and Sisters in Christ on the road where they are at. We have to have the boldness of the prophets like Elijah and Nathan to speak truth to power. But we also need to have the worker mentality of a Martha to do the work, rather than just sit at the feet listening to the words of Christ.

**What are three (3) issues emerging from those areas you stated above:**

*Please limit to 150 words.*



Our continued and hopefully expanding relationship with the LGBT Community who are our Brothers & Sisters in Christ. Examining a more efficient and effective fiduciary method of funding the church. Expanding and growing our presence on college and high school campuses, but also increasing a ministry for those out of college, but single.

**Name:** LauraJo Prange

**Date:** 28 Jan 2015

**Email:** ljprange@att.net

**Phone Number:** 870-818-0206



**Address:** PO Box 4221 City: Overland Park State: KS Zip Code: 66204

**Please send this completed form, and a photo of yourself as a separate attachment, to [vicki.davis@arumc.org](mailto:vicki.davis@arumc.org) by April 15, 2015.**

**Membership:**

**Clergy** (*Clergy Member in Full Connection - Para. 35, 2012 Book of Discipline.*)

**Lay** (*A professing member of the United Methodist Church for at least two years preceding their election; and an active participant in the United Methodist Church for at least four years preceding their election; and a member of a church within the Arkansas Annual Conference - Para. 36, 2012 Book of Discipline. Lay delegates need not be voting members of the Annual Conference to be elected.*)

**District:**

Please select your district. Southeast District

**Church:**

What is your local church? FUMC DeWitt

**Commitment as a Delegate and Christian Conferencing Guidelines:**

**I have read and accept the [Christian Conferencing Guidelines](#).**

Yes

No

**Share your reasons for wanting to be a delegate.**

*Please limit to 150 words.*



As I continue my journey through seminary attending General Conference will help me gain experience in our church's global governance platform. As our church continues to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world, I would like to be in the midst of these leaders and be part of our transforming connectionalism throughout the global UMC.

**What leadership experiences have you had in the church or community that will help you do the work of the delegation?**

*Please limit to 150 words.*

I have attended Annual Conference three of the last four years. I been on many committees in my local church. I am currently a student at Saint Paul School of Theology and serving on the schools governemnt, i.e., student council and I am serving in Church of the Resurrection's Congregational Care Department as a Congregational Care Minister.

**Share three (3) areas crucial to The United Methodist Church's mission to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world:**

*Please limit to 150 words.*

Elimination of Human Trafficking  
Inclusion of the LGBT community  
Safe Drinking Water in third world areas of the world

**What are three (3) issues emerging from those areas you stated above:**

*Please limit to 150 words.*

Slavery is not dead in the world.  
If the LGBTcommunity can find acceptance within our church they will bring people to Christ and transform the world.  
Global health depends on safe drinking water. The UMC through volunteers and generosity can help eliminate health issues due to unsafe drinking water. Some programs are in place and more needs to be done.

**ARUMC General and Jurisdictional Conference Self Nomination Form**

**Name: James A. (Jim) Robb**

**Date: 22 March 2015**

**Email: jrobbjim@yahoo.com**

**Phone Number: 870 741-6980**

**Address: 1022 Kay St. City: Harrison State: AR Zip Code: 72601**

**Please send this completed form, and a photo of yourself as a separate attachment to [vicki.davis@arumc.org](mailto:vicki.davis@arumc.org) by April 15, 2015.**



**Membership:**

**Clergy** (*Clergy Member in Full Connection - Para. 35, 2012 Book of Discipline.*)

**Lay** (*A professing member of the United Methodist Church for at least two years preceding their election; and an active participant in the United Methodist Church for at least four years preceding their election; and a member of a church within the Arkansas Annual Conference - Para. 36, 2012 Book of Discipline. Lay delegates need not be voting members of the Annual Conference to be elected.*)

**District:**

Please select your district. Northwest District

**Church:**

What is your local church? St. Paul's UMC, Harrison

**Commitment as a Delegate and Christian Conferencing Guidelines:**

**I have read and accept the [Christian Conferencing Guidelines](#).**

Yes

No

**Share your reasons for wanting to be a delegate.**

*Please limit to 150 words.*

I grew up in the Methodist/United Methodist church, and have attended church regularly most of my life. Since moving to Arkansas in 1990 I have been active in my local church in a number of capacities, and to a lesser extent in my District and the Annual conference. I am concerned about the future of Christian churches as I see much of the western world turning from the foundation of our civilization (both deliberately and through ignorance). I see the role of the General Conference as not simply providing an administrative framework for the operation of the UMC, but more importantly to provide a vision (and the tools and training to implement that vision) to our local churches. I believe I can contribute to the process of defining and implementing that vision and would like the opportunity to try.

**What leadership experiences have you had in the church or community that will help you do the work of the delegation?**

*Please limit to 150 words.*

I have served my local church in many capacities over the past 25 or so years, including chairing the Administrative Board, the SPPR committee and the Finance Committee. I have also served as Lay Leader, adult Sunday School teacher, and men's group treasurer, as well as Lay Speaker (Servant) for over 20 years and Lay Delegate to Annual Conference for over a decade. I was also a member of our 'Connected in Christ' team and a part of the planning committee for our building program. I have served as a District Trustee and on the Conference Committee on Small Membership Churches. I have served on several community boards, the state library association board (including a year as president) and on several grant review committees for the state library. Until my retirement last summer I was director of the college library and served on many institutional communities. In short, I have extensive leadership and committee experience which will aid me in being a productive member of the Arkansas delegation.

**Share three (3) areas crucial to The United Methodist Church's mission to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world:**

*Please limit to 150 words.*

1. Developing active disciples within the current membership of the church.
2. Involving the local churches in meeting the needs of their local communities.
3. Sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ with the unchurched.

**What are three (3) issues emerging from those areas you stated above:**

*Please limit to 150 words.*

1. How do we address these areas in ways that engage our current members and positively impact the world around us.
2. What tools can the General and Annual conferences provide to the local churches to help them be more effective in their respective mission fields.
3. How do we share spiritual truth with an unchurched population that is increasingly hostile to and unfamiliar with the church playing any meaningful role in civic affairs or in their personal lives.



**ARUMC General and Jurisdictional Conference Self Nomination Form**

**Name:** Brian Swain

**Date:** 02/10/2015

**Email:** bswain@centraltolife.com

**Phone Number:** 479-442-1828

**Address:** 64 Saint John Place City: Farmington State: AR Zip Code: 72730



**Please send this completed form, and a photo of yourself as a separate attachment, to [vicki.davis@arumc.org](mailto:vicki.davis@arumc.org) by April 15, 2015.**

**Membership:**

**Clergy** (*Clergy Member in Full Connection - Para. 35, 2012 Book of Discipline.*)

**Lay** (*A professing member of the United Methodist Church for at least two years preceding their election; and an active participant in the United Methodist Church for at least four years preceding their election; and a member of a church within the Arkansas Annual Conference - Para. 36, 2012 Book of Discipline. Lay delegates need not be voting members of the Annual Conference to be elected.*)

**District:**

Please select your district. Northwest District

**Church:**

What is your local church? Central United Methodist Church-Fayetteville

**Commitment as a Delegate and Christian Conferencing Guidelines:**

**I have read and accept the [Christian Conferencing Guidelines](#).**

Yes

No

**Share your reasons for wanting to be a delegate.**

*Please limit to 150 words.*



My heart aches at the dischord in the Christian community and how many unchurched people are not reached over the perceived and often real lack of unity in our church. I want to help reverse this pattern. I was privileged to serve as a reserve delegate to GC 2012 and a Jurisdictional delegate from Arkansas in 2012. This was my first time to serve in either capacity and I learned a great deal from the experience. I have been a UM my entire life having grown up in a small town UMC (Atkins) and now attend and serve on staff at the largest UMC in Arkansas. I value the perspective of both small and large churches as a result. I love our Lord & Savior Jesus Christ and relish the opportunity to serve Him. I am well-educated with a Master of Public Administration degree and would be honored and humbled to serve as your representative.

**What leadership experiences have you had in the church or community that will help you do the work of the delegation?**

*Please limit to 150 words.*

I am the Administrator at Central UMC-Fayetteville where I have served for 15 years. In this role I have learned a great deal about the internal workings of the UMC. Along the way, I had the privilege to serve many years as the District Treasurer for the NW District where I implemented greatly enhanced internal controls and reporting procedures. Most recently, I have had the privilege of serving on the Conference Pension & Insurance Board and providing assistance with the challenges we face particularly in the insurance arena. I previously also served on the Conference Technology Task Force that helped design our current staffing structure in that area. Finally, I have served on 14 Walks to Emmaus including service as Lay Director and a Board member.

**Share three (3) areas crucial to The United Methodist Church's mission to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world:**

*Please limit to 150 words.*

There are many possible answers to this question, but the three I want to lift up include:

- 1) Attract new young pastors. The average age of UM clergy is approximately 59. Many retirements are looming and we must fill the void that is upon us. This includes attracting the best and brightest into the clergy.
- 2) Become more relevant to young people. Statistics indicate that approximately 75% of young people leave the church after high school. Granted some return later in life, but we must find ways to keep young adults engaged throughout their college journey and subsequent years.
- 3) Increase the use of technology. Technology permeates all areas of our world. The church lags woefully behind in this arena. We are to be in the world and not of the world. This includes leveraging technology to reach and communicate with our parishioners, the nominally churched, and unchurched.

**What are three (3) issues emerging from those areas you stated above:**

*Please limit to 150 words.*

- 1) We must provide a clearer path for clergy through seminary which includes greater scholarship assistance and more lucrative appointments earlier in their careers. Our Arkansas conference is making strides in this area. We must do it across the full connection. Another key element to this is working with seminaries to ensure that clergy are being provided with relevant preparation.
- 2) We must strengthen our Wesley Foundations across America and provide best practices to our churches on how to engage young adults. This is a critical area for the church else we will continue to lose future generations thus weakening the future stability of the church.
- 3) We must provide cost effective paths for churches to offer enhanced communication through technology including: appealing websites, social media connectivity, online giving, live streaming, text communication, Internet campuses and communities, and seeking ways to offer multi-site church experiences.

## ARUMC General and Jurisdictional Conference Se Form

**Name:** Asa L. Whitaker, Jr.

**Date:** April 1, 2015

**Email:** alwhitaker@suddenlink.net

**Phone Number:** 870-793-3007

**Address:** 160 Ottinger Street City: Batesville State: AR Zip Code: 72501

Please send this completed form, and a photo of yourself as a separate attachment, to [vicki.davis@arumc.org](mailto:vicki.davis@arumc.org) by April 15, 2015.



### Membership:

**Clergy** (*Clergy Member in Full Connection - Para. 35, 2012 Book of Discipline.*)

**Lay** (*A professing member of the United Methodist Church for at least two years preceding their election; and an active participant in the United Methodist Church for at least four years preceding their election; and a member of a church within the Arkansas Annual Conference - Para. 36, 2012 Book of Discipline. Lay delegates need not be voting members of the Annual Conference to be elected.*)

### District:

Please select your district. Northeast District

### Church:

What is your local church? Batesville First

### Commitment as a Delegate and Christian Conferencing Guidelines:

**I have read and accept the [Christian Conferencing Guidelines](#).**

Yes

No

### Share your reasons for wanting to be a delegate.

*Please limit to 150 words.*

I believe in the mission of the United Methodist Church with all my heart. I work and pray for its return as the foremost desire of our hearts and minds. The 2012 General Conference clearly demonstrated we are a denomination with flaws, but we have a message of grace to all which sets us apart as special vessels of the good news. My heart aches from the losses we have realized in worship attendance. I am afraid we have focused on ourselves far too much rather than reaching out to the least, the last, and the lost in the communities around us. Legislation came before the 2012 General Conference which was designed to make us more nimble and responsive to the needs of the communities - it failed. We must become more effective in making Disciples of Jesus Christ and to seek new ways to be more effective in ministry to our neighbors.

**What leadership experiences have you had in the church or community that will help you do the work of the delegation?**

*Please limit to 150 words.*

I have been blessed to serve in a variety of areas in my local church as well as Arkansas Conference: Lay Leader 2003-2012, President of the Association of Annual Conference Lay Leaders, and member of the General Board of Discipleship. I have been honored to have served as a delegate to General and Jurisdictional Conferences for 2000, 2004, 2008 and 2012 where I served as head of the delegation in 2004 and 2012. The challenges at the 2016 General Conference are huge. I pray that through the power of the Holy Spirit I will be equipped to debate and help prepare a way forward. My involvement has given me a broad understanding of the needs of the local church, an understanding of the workings of the General and Jurisdictional Conferences and has prepared me to work within the connectional church to continue our focus and emphasis on making Disciples of Jesus Christ.

**Share three (3) areas crucial to The United Methodist Church's mission to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world:**

*Please limit to 150 words.*

1. Regain our zeal to bring the good news of Jesus Christ to the least, last, and lost starting with our friends and neighbors where we live and serve.
2. Remove the bureaucracy and burden created by the General Church and allow the local church to be more nimble and effective.
3. Develop a process to enable clergy and lay to increase the vitality of the local church and hold both Bishops, and pastors accountable for their effectiveness. Current processes are difficult and practically impossible to remove leaders who clearly violate the Discipline and/or are ineffective leaders in their conference or local church

**What are three (3) issues emerging from those areas you stated above:**

*Please limit to 150 words.*

Guaranteed appointments for clergy.

How to refocus our attention from "church business" to the "business of the church"

Division within the church continues to be a major issue. Progressives and Conservatives alike are becoming more and more polarized. There could be a vote on the floor regarding unity vs. separation. Regardless this will be a prevailing issue.



**ARUMC General and Jurisdictional Conference Self**

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Please send this completed form, and a photo of yourself as a separate attachment to [vicki.davis@arumc.org](mailto:vicki.davis@arumc.org) by April 15, 2015.



**Membership:**

**Clergy** (*Clergy Member in Full Connection - Para. 35, 2012 Book of Discipline.*)

**Lay** (*A professing member of the United Methodist Church for at least two years preceding their election; and an active participant in the United Methodist Church for at least four years preceding their election; and a member of a church within the Arkansas Annual Conference - Para. 36, 2012 Book of Discipline. Lay delegates need not be voting members of the Annual Conference to be elected.*)

**District:**

Please select your district. Central District

**Church:**

What is your local church? Pulaski Heights United Methodist Church

**Commitment as a Delegate and Christian Conferencing Guidelines:**

**I have read and accept the [Christian Conferencing Guidelines](#).**

Yes

No

**Share your reasons for wanting to be a delegate.**

*Please limit to 150 words.*

As a young person in the United Methodist Church, I have been blessed with a unique perspective as to the future of our Church. On the one hand, I have seen the incredible, life-changing, dynamic ways that the Church can move when it is infused with the Spirit. However, I have also seen it become bogged down in institutionalism and tradition and fail in its goal to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. Christianity as well as the United Methodist Church are on the decline, at least in North America and Europe, but it is my firm conviction that God is not finished acting and speaking through his Church. It is time for a new infusion of spirit and vision so that the Church can reverse the tides of dereliction, but it must seriously undertake the radical movements that it is called to, and has been called to throughout history. I believe I have been blessed with part of this vision for our next movements and I hope to contribute that at General Conference.

**What leadership experiences have you had in the church or community that will help you do the work of the delegation?**

*Please limit to 150 words.*

My leadership experiences within the Church have mostly related to youth ministry. I have served on the District Council on Youth Ministries and as Chaplain and then President of the Arkansas Conference Council on Youth Ministries. The youth events and ministry I was a part of through these organizations have been a huge part of my development as a person of faith and as a United Methodist and I believe my experience in the area of youth ministry should be present at General Conference. Through my involvement in these leadership roles, I was elected to be a lay delegate to Annual Conference in 2014 and as a voting delegate to the Global Young People Convocation and Legislative Assembly held in the Philippines in the same year. Especially from this last leadership experience, I gained insight into what it means to work with people from totally different backgrounds and beliefs toward a common goal and in a spirit of holy conferencing.

**Share three (3) areas crucial to The United Methodist Church's mission to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world:**

*Please limit to 150 words.*

One of the most crucial vocations for the United Methodist Church in order to fulfill its mission is reaching young people and those who previously have not been involved in the Church. Young people are the future (and the present) of the Church and its size and scope in coming years will largely depend on how effectively it can reach them. Second, the church's commitment to focusing outward rather than inward will play a huge role in its mission. It must seek followers rather than waiting inside its buildings and it must also commit to service in an even greater degree than it has in the past--because we are the hands and feet of Christ. Last, The United Methodist Church is a global body with members of an unlimited number of backgrounds and beliefs and therefore holy conferencing, open-mindedness, and cross-culturalism will be necessary for it to continue its mission without schism.

**What are three (3) issues emerging from those areas you stated above:**

*Please limit to 150 words.*

The Church's love and acceptance toward people of the LGBTQ community is vital for its pursuit of young people. In order to be relevant to the daughters and sons of the twenty first century (and in order to love others as Christ taught) there can be no perception of discrimination or prejudice in the United Methodist Church. It must also approach this issue with a spirit of holy conferencing in order to avoid division that would be counter-productive to its mission. Second, it is of the utmost importance that the Church continue and ramp up its commitment to fighting malaria and ebola and the countless other diseases and systems that assault God's children. Third, as the Church tackles these issues it must face that problems that will arise from vastly different perspectives of members from around the world. We must find a way to agree to disagree in some capacities but work in the same spirit toward important goals and above all to the goal of making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

