

## ARUMC General and Jurisdictional Conference Self Nomination Form

**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.*