

## ARUMC General and Jurisdictional Conference Self Nomination Form

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**Date:** 4.14.15

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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? 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.*