

## ARUMC General and Jurisdictional Conference Self Nomination Form

**Name:** John Robbins

**Date:** 4/13/15

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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. 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 uninterested 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 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.*