

## ARUMC General and Jurisdictional Conference Form

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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? 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.*