

ARUMC General and Jurisdictional Conference Self

Name: Todd Burris

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Email: 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 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.