

# Voting for General/Jurisdictional Conference Delegates

## Delegation Responsibilities

Oregon-Idaho is allotted one clergy and one lay delegate for General Conference (GC).

We are allotted four clergy and four lay delegates for Jurisdictional Conference (JC).

The annual conference may decide to elect two clergy/two lay reserves for JC.

The first lay delegate elected will head the entire OR-ID delegation (we alternate leadership between clergy and lay; the 2012 delegation was led by clergy).

The first lay/clergy person elected serve as GC delegates AND as JC delegates.

The second lay/clergy person elected serve as GC reserves AND as JC delegates.

The third and fourth lay/clergy persons elected serve as JC delegates. If the annual conference votes to expand the GC delegation, then these persons would also serve as additional GC reserves.

If the decision is made to elect JC reserves, then the fifth and sixth lay/clergy persons elected will serve as JC reserves. Depending on the will of the Annual Conference, these persons may also travel to GC as additional GC reserves. In this case, the delegation would total 12 (six lay, six clergy).

The first lay/clergy persons elected also serve on the Western Jurisdiction Committee on the Episcopacy (among other things, this group assigns the WJ bishops to their episcopal areas). The term of service begins at the conclusion of the 2016 WJC session.

The second lay/clergy persons elected also serve on the WJ Nominating Committee. This term of service begins with a meeting immediately preceding the WJC session in 2016.

General Conference meets May 10-20, 2016, in Portland, OR. The delegation will have several meetings in the months before GC, and there is a tremendous amount of reading to do in preparation for the GC session.

The Western Jurisdictional Conference meets July 13-16, 2016, in Scottsdale, AZ. All five of the Jurisdictional Conferences in the U.S. meet simultaneously.

The Book of Discipline outlines the requirements for election as a clergy delegate: *The clergy delegates to the General Conference and to the jurisdictional shall be elected from the clergy members in full connection and shall be elected by the clergy members of the annual conference who are deacons and elders in full connection, associate members, and those provisional members who have completed all of their educational requirements and local pastors who have completed course study or an M. Div. Degree and have served a minimum of two consecutive years under appointment immediately preceding the election.* (§35 Article IV)

The Book of Discipline outlines the requirements for election as a lay delegate: *The lay delegates to the General and jurisdictional shall be elected by the lay members of the annual conference without regard to age, provided such delegates shall have been professing members of The United Methodist Church for at least two years next preceding their election, and shall have been active participants in The United Methodist Church for at least four years next preceding their election, and are members thereof within the annual conference electing them at the time of holding the General and jurisdictional or central conferences.* (§36 Article V)