Oregon-Idaho Annual Conference 2019
Balloting Instructions: 2020 General/Jurisdictional Delegation

How many are we electing?
At the 2019 annual conference session, we will be electing one clergy and one lay delegate to the 2020 General Conference (the clergy delegate will serve as head of the delegation; we alternate this role between clergy and laity each quadrennium). Three additional clergy and three additional laity will be elected as Jurisdictional delegates, for a total of eight Jurisdictional delegates. Although it’s up to the annual conference to determine the number of Jurisdictional reserves, we typically elect another two clergy and two laity as reserves to the Jurisdictional conference session, for a total of 12 persons.

What’s involved for the delegation?
The 2020 General Conference will be held in Minneapolis, MN, May 5-15, 2020. The 2020 Western Jurisdictional Conference will be held July 15-18, 2020, in Billings, MT. All five jurisdictional conferences in the U.S. meet simultaneously to elect bishops and conduct jurisdictional business.

The first lay and first clergy delegates elected also serve on the Western Jurisdiction Committee on the Episcopacy. The term of service begins at the conclusion of the 2020 WJC session and continues through the quadrennium. The second lay and second clergy delegates elected also serve on the Western Jurisdiction Nominating Committee. This assignment begins with pre-conference work and preparation (ahead of July 2020), and includes a one- or two-day meeting just prior to the WJC 2020 session. The delegation as a whole will likely have a number of meetings between July of 2019 and May of 2020; there is also a very significant amount of reading to do in preparation for General Conference. During the conference session, the days begin quite early (there may be a 7:00 am daily briefing for the WJC delegations) and end late.

How will we vote?
Balloting will take place with the assistance of hand-held, electronic keypads. Instructions for using the machines will be given at the annual conference session, along with opportunities to practice. Clergy and lay ballots will be taken separately, and the results of each ballot will be available within a few seconds. Those eligible to vote for GC/JC delegates are:

- all lay members of the annual conference
- all Oregon-Idaho clergy in full connection
- OR-ID provisional clergy members who have completed their educational requirements
- licensed local pastors who have completed the Course of Study and have served under appointment for two consecutive years preceding the balloting

Name tags will be color-coded to make it clear who is eligible to vote. Your name tag serves as your credential, so make sure to wear it at all times during the session. Questions about membership status or voting eligibility should be directed to the conference secretary, Laura Jaquith Bartlett.

Can we add to the nominees?
The following pages provide information about persons who have indicated a willingness to go through the nominations process for the Delegation. Each was asked to completed a standard biographical form and to answer their choice of three questions (from a list of four). However, all OR-ID clergy in full connection will appear on the clergy ballots, and are eligible for election. For laity, those eligible for election must be professing members of the UMC for at least two years preceding election; must be active participants in the UMC for at least four years preceding election; and must be members of a local UMC within OR-ID at the time of the General and/or Jurisdictional Conference; lay delegates can be any age. To add a lay person to the ballot, a motion must be made on the plenary floor of the conference session. The person does not need to be present, but does need to have indicated a willingness to serve if elected.
Lay Candidate Information
(see page 10 for clergy candidates)

Mark Bateman
Local Church: Salem First UMC
District: Cascadia

Church-Related Service
- Chair/Member Jurisdictional CF&A (2012-pres.)
- Lay Member, OR-ID AC (2013-pres., as a teen in the 1980s)
- Board Chair, Open Door Churches, UM of Salem Keizer (2015-pres.)
- Jurisdictional Leadership Team (2016-pres.)
- OR-ID, CF&A (2016-pres.)
- Chaperone, Youth VIM team to Costa Rica (July 2019)
- Board of Ordained Ministry (2005-16)
- UMCOR Depot VIM team (2016)
- Chair, Ad Council, Salem 1st UMC (2012-15)
- Volunteer, Salem 1st UMC Saturdays of Service
- Visionary Leadership White Paper Team (2014-15)
- Speaker: OR-ID UMW mtg.; Cascadia Training; Crater Lake Training; AC Laity Workshops; Adult Sun. Sch.
- Chair/Member, Finance CMTE, 1st First UMC (2008-12)
- Chair, Stewardship CMTE, 1st First UMC (2008-11)
- Chair/Member, Finance CMTE, Newberg UMC (2005-07)
- VIM team to Costa Rica (2003)
- Staff Parish Relations CMTE (Trinity UMC, Salem, 1984-86; Wilson Memorial UMC, Baltimore, 1987-90; Mill Creek Parish UMC, Rockville, MD, 1996-99)

Community-Related Service
- Occupation: expert and entrepreneur in socially responsible, sustainable, and impact investing industry
- Secretary/Board Member, Sustainable Investment Institute (Si2) (2012-present)
- Member, Salem-Keizer School District Budget Committee (2013-2018)
- Member, Salem-Keizer Schools Infrastructure Task Force (2016-2017)
- Chair/Member, Sherwood City Budget Committee (2005-2007)
- Chair, Program Leadership Committee, Maryland State 4-H (1996-1998)

Question A: What is the most important issue facing the UMC today and how would you address it?
Question B: What does the UMC need most in order to experience revitalization?

Following the 2019 General Conference, the greatest issue the UMC faces and the path to revitalization are the same - our current inability as a global denomination to accept our differences as individuals whomever we are, wherever we are from, whomever we love, whatever our theological perspectives, whatever our culture,
and wherever we are in our faith journey. Figuring this out within our UMC structure or as part of a brand-new expression of Methodism and Wesleyan theology is only the first step. Then, to be vital, we must reimagine Church. For churches of the future to thrive in ministry they cannot be bound by our current structures or dynamics: one clergyperson, relating to one congregation, relating to one building. We must break these structures to deploy the expertise and passions of our laity and clergy into the world in ways we haven’t even imagined.

**Question C: What gifts and graces would you bring as a participant around the General Church table?**

My skills are in understanding the strengths and weaknesses of existing systems and imagining new systems. As part of the Oregon Idaho GC delegation, I would contribute these analytical and creative abilities in preparing for and working at General Conference, preparing for and working at Jurisdictional Conference, and moving the Church forward after the 2020 conferences.

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**Esteban Galan**

Local Church: Boise First UMC  
District: Sage

**Church-Related Service**

- Hospitality Lay Leader Contemporary Service at Boise First United Methodist

**Community-Related Service**

- ‘Add The Words Idaho’ Activist - 2012- Present (The human rights statutes have yet to include protections against discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity.)
- Progressive Policy Consultant - 2012 - Present (Consult with political campaigns and elected officials to shape social justice public policy.)
- Anne Frank Memorial Docent 2014 - Present
- Student Leadership Coach 2017 -Present (High School marching band Drum Major Education and advisory for student leadership for rural Idaho School.)

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**Question A: What is the most important issue facing the UMC today and how would you address it?**

Perhaps the most important issue our church is facing today, we are at a generational divide and lack of trust in our institution. The future of the movement depends on the integration and faith of the next generation who are being challenged between the faith of good work and being forsaken because of individual beliefs.

**Question B: What does the UMC need most in order to experience revitalization?**

We can only revitalize our church together across generations learning from our past and trusting into our future. The young folks have vision for what yet may be the best days of the church, however this is only accomplished with the wisdom of faithful who have bore the cross before us. Revitalization isn’t a passing of the baton, no instead it is an adding of chairs to the table of leadership, and filling those chairs with the true diversity that is the body of Christ.

**Question C: What gifts and graces would you bring as a participant around the General Church table?**

I am a 25 year old Latinx man who has navigated being part of the + in the LGBT+ community and have a passion to recognize when we are missing siblings at our table, and willing to help build new chairs to help integrate progressive policy for the church to operate and continue to liberate.
Lydia Henry

Local Church: Gresham First UMC
District: Columbia

Church-Related Service
- Columbia District Lay Leader, 2015 - current
- Safe Sanctuaries Coordinator, Oregon-Idaho Conference, 2017 - current
- Committee on the Episcopacy, Oregon-Idaho Conference, 2016 - current
- Ministry Leadership Team - Oregon-Idaho Conference, 2017 - current
- Board of Lay Ministry, Oregon-Idaho Annual Conference, 2015 - current
- Columbia District Missional Strategy Team, 2016 - current
- Columbia District Committee on Ordained Ministry, 2015 - current
- Columbia District Laity Development Team, 2016 - current
- Columbia District Lay Servant Coordinator, 2012 - 2018
- Core Team member for Transformational Leadership Initiative, a cooperative venture between the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America and the UMC in Oregon, 2019
- Legislative Assembly, Oregon-Idaho Annual Conference, 2015 - current
- Education Committee, Gresham UMC, 2018 - present
- Worship Committee, Gresham UMC, 2018 - present

Community-Related Service
- Volunteer, Gresham UMC Shelter Program. Help prepare and serve monthly meals to women’s homeless shelter in Gresham, 2017 - current
- Volunteer, AARP Tax Aide, Tax seasons 2018, 2019
- Volunteer - Rockwood Center music camp, 2018
- Volunteer, Summer VBS, Gresham UMC, 2019
- Volunteer - day opportunities: Medical Teams International, Free Geek, church sponsored BBQ’s for neighborhood

Question A: What is the most important issue facing the UMC today and how would you address it?
The most important issue facing us is our continued struggle to communicate and create an environment where relationships are genuine and inclusiveness is part of our DNA. We need to create communities where radical hospitality and compassion are experienced by everyone; where mission is important; where we honestly say, “all are welcome.” Inclusiveness isn’t listing groups who are welcome, but recognizing each person’s dignity, history, trauma, faith, and value in our communities, congregations, and ministries. I believe we can choose to live more fully into the gospel of Jesus Christ through building relationships; being open to new ways; seeking forgiveness where we have failed; and extending grace to all.

Question B: What does the UMC need most in order to experience revitalization?
To acknowledge that we do not speak with one voice or one vision and to honor the unique gifts of each lay and clergy person. As the body of Christ, it is within our ability to function in our diversity to support and recognize the gifts and graces of others in a way that is inclusive and honoring of each.

Question C: What gifts and graces would you bring as a participant around the General Church table?
The ability to: listen to others and hear their perspective; analyze situations and seek viable solutions; speak from my mind and heart; and listen for God’s leading.
Jesse KIBOKO
Local Church: Pocatello UMC
District: Sage

Church-Related Service
• Pocatello First United Methodist Church where he is serving on the mission committee, advisor to the wonderful and dynamic Wesley House.

Community-Related Service
• I joined the International Program Office in June 2011.
• My professional career includes extensive experience in international students advising on immigration issues, and academic advising.
• Jesse is a board member of Vano Ministries created while in prison, and an advocate for peace and justice.
• He is also the president and founder of the Congolese Action Forum of America, Inc.
• Member of the Pocatello Africa sister’s city.

Question B: What does the UMC need most in order to experience revitalization?
In order to experience revitalization, the UMC needs prayers, understanding and love.

Question C: What gifts and graces would you bring as a participant around the General Church table?
My multi-language and multi-cultural background will be a great asset around the GC table as I understand both American and African cultures.

Question D: Name an Oregon-Idaho strength or concern which you would carry to GC or JC?
The Oregon-Idaho strength is love. I believe that our United Methodist Church and other Christian churches need to learn only to love and love one another but to live it without judgement as Jesus loved the church. I am proud of being a believer of God who brings people and nations together despite our cultural differences and our similarities. That is why I strongly feel that by taking time to look at and pray for one another at different gatherings and celebrate the love of Jesus Christ, which brings us together.

Jan Nelson
Local Church: Morningside UMC, Salem
District: Cascadia

Church-Related Service
• General/jurisdictional delegate in 2012, 2016, 2019
• Conference lay leader 2016 - present *Morningside UMC church council, previously chaired numerous committees
• Kenya mission team 2018, previous mission teams to Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico
• Methodist Federation for Social Action: Oregon-Idaho leadership
• Western Methodist Justice Movement: leadership team

Community-Related Service
• Volunteer, Jason Lee Food Bank,
• Volunteer, Community Homeless Connect
• Member of Confluence: Willamette Valley LGBT chorus
• Middle school teacher, retired 2001
Question A: What is the most important issue facing the UMC today and how would you address it?

The most pressing issue is to be a church that welcomes and affirms all. This may or may not be possible within the UMC as it currently exists. I would first join other leaders to explore every possibility for changing the structure and/or the rules in order for us to remain in the denomination. If this is not possible, I will participate in creating something new that embodies our Wesleyan values and preserves our global connections as much as possible.

Question C: What gifts and graces would you bring as a participant around the General Church table?

I have experience as a delegate and relationships with delegates and other members across the UMC, including Africa, Europe, and the Philippines. I prefer to work with a team but can also work independently. I am a problem solver and a big picture person who can also attend to details.

Question D: Name an Oregon-Idaho strength or concern which you would carry to GC or JC?

Our strength is our ability to openly confront the crisis in the church while continuing to carry out the mission of the church in our communities and around the world. The concern is the negative effect on our churches of the exclusionary language in the Discipline and the punitive rules passed at the 2019 General Conference session.

Kylie Nelson

Local Church: Wesley UMC, Eugene
District: Crater Lake

Church-Related Service
- Alcolyte Coordinator, Wesley UMC 2009-2012
- Communion steward organizer, Wesley UMC 2010-2013
- Financial Steward, Wesley UMC 2015-2017
- Annual Conference Ethnic Member June 2017
- Global Young People’s Convocation WJ Delegate 2018
- Leadership Development team, Wesley UMC 2019 - current
- Bold New Season team, Wesley UMC 2019 - current
- Annual Conference Ethnic Member June 2019

Community-Related Service
- American Cancer Society 2009-2014
- Food for Lane County 2013-2015
- Night strike (soup kitchen in Portland) 2016-2017
- Friends of Trees 2017-2018
- Oregon Food Bank 2017-2018
- Red Cross 2017-2018
- Planned Parenthood 2017-2018
- Kappa Delta Chi service events 2017-current
- St. Vincent de Paul of Lane County Night Shelter 2018-Current

Question A: What is the most important issue facing the UMC today and how would you address it?

Inequality—whether is be racism or blatant homophobia, inequality of marginalized groups is an important issue facing the UMC. I would address it by continuing table talks surrounding these issues and letting those who have been hurt by racism or homophobia in the church be given a platform to speak and be heard. Also requiring churches to take part in diversity training.
Question B: *What does the UMC need most in order to experience revitalization?*

They need the voices of young people. I was a delegate to GYPC 2018 and much of the content we created & work we did could contribute heavily to revitalization - if only more older voices of the church truly listened to us. Young people need a seat at the table and we will bring our folding chairs if we have to.

Question C: *What gifts and graces would you bring as a participant around the General Church table?*

I’m a young, adopted, Asian-American woman with strong ties to the LGBTQIA+ community - these gifts have actually helped increase my empathy and understanding of those with different beliefs/views. I’m an artist and I use my creativity in my job of working for a social service nonprofit and serving in my church. Whether it’s creative thinking or literal design work, I’d bring that to the church table.

Paul Nickell

Local Church: Portland First UMC
District: Columbia

Church-Related Service

- Lifelong United Methodist (baptism 1955, confirmation 1968)
- Member and chair, administrative boards (council, leadership team or other names): Bellevue (WA) First, Roseburg (OR) First, and Portland (OR) First, 1972 to present, various years
- Lay member, annual conference four times in last 34 years (First UMC, Oregon-Idaho)
- Member, Oregon-Idaho Commission on the Status and Role of Women, 1980s
- Member, Oregon-Idaho Communications Committee, 2001-2005
- Editor, United Methodist (Oregon-Idaho publication), 1985-1989; interim in 2001
- Recipient, Jason Lee Communications Award (Oregon-Idaho), 1989
- Committee member (Portland First): Communications, Church & Society, Staff/Parish Relations, Archives (various years) and long-range planning efforts (various years)
- Attendee, Reconciling Ministries events, 1998 (Texas) and 2001 (Washington)
- Page, teller and candidate sponsor, Western Jurisdictional Conferences, 1972, 2008, 2012

Community-Related Service

- Board member, co-founder, Burnside Advocates Group, Portland, 1999-2001
- Member and officer, National Association of Bar Executives (ABA), 1989-2017
- Member, officer and president, International Association of Business Communicators, 1989-2017

Question A: *What is the most important issue facing the UMC today and how would you address it?*

I pray we will exhaust every opportunity to continue as a united denomination and overcome our brokenness of process and polity. Failing that, though I am bound to Methodism and to the tradition of grace and freedom it proclaims, my heart is open to another expression of our Wesleyan experience should it become necessary.

Question C: *What gifts and graces would you bring as a participant around the General Church table?*

As a gay man who came out in 1972 at age 17, I’ve witnessed the UMC debating the extent of my sacred worth my entire adult life. While I do not enjoy the tension of the UMC these past five decades, I understand it -- and it does not daunt me. I am proficient in polity and legal matters, as well as UM process. Moreover, I remain optimistic about our future.
Question D: **Name an Oregon-Idaho strength or concern which you would carry to GC or JC?**

Our annual conference already lives the One Church plan. We are, and have long been, theologically diverse. We live that diversity, and we celebrate in it. It is not a weakness; it is our strength. I wish for the rest of the UMC to know what we have, and for them to have it too. I believe Oregon-Idaho has a unique ability to lead the general church to wholeness.

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Aaron Pazan

**Local Church:** Portsmouth Union, Portland  
**District:** Columbia

**Church-Related Service**
- PNW UMC Delegation Global Young Peoples Convocation 2010  
- PNW UMC Delegation Global Young Peoples Convocation 2014  
- General Conference Volunteer Check in coordinator 2016  
- UMOI LGBTQIA Taskforce 2019  
- UMOI Camp and Retreat Ministries Program Division 2019

**Community-Related Service**
- Learning and Serving Together- L. A. S. T. 2017-Current

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**Question A: What is the most important issue facing the UMC today and how would you address it?**

The most important issue facing the UMC today is the lack of inclusion of young people and those who identify as LGBTQIA+ in our churches and on boards and agencies and in voting roles at different denominational levels. I would address this issue by saying we need young people and people who identify as LGBTQIA+ because we will wither as a denomination without them.

**Question B: What does the UMC need most in order to experience revitalization?**

The UMC needs more local church involvement with community organizations to experience revitalization. The UMC needs to be hands on in the community being in service with others and not just for other people. We are a church founded on social justice issues and that has been something we have forgotten about.

**Question D: Name an Oregon-Idaho strength or concern which you would carry to GC or JC?**

An Oregon-Idaho strength I would carry with me is that we believe all of God’s children are of sacred worth and that the Book of Discipline is wrong when it uses harmful terms against our LGBTQIA+ siblings. We believe that the sacred worth of a human being is more important than the polity of our church. We’ve been living the one church plan for over 50 years.
David J White

Local Church: Portsmouth Union, Portland
District: Columbia

Church-Related Service
- Former Church Treasurer
- Former Church Trustee
- Former Church Education Chair
- Current Church Lay Member
- Current Treasurer for Great Spirit UMC (formerly Wilshire)
- Current Bell Tower (Affordable Housing) Financial Manager
- Current Conference Trustee
- Current CDCES (Extension Society) Bookkeeper

Community-Related Service
- Community of Hope (N Portland)
- Good Samaritan Food Bank (N Portland)

**Question A:** What is the most important issue facing the UMC today and how would you address it?
Inclusion and Unity of the denomination. Tough but not insurmountable

**Question B:** What does the UMC need most in order to experience revitalization?
Honesty and recognize that G-d has many different faces.

**Question C:** What gifts and graces would you bring as a participant around the General Church table?
Experience with the question of inclusion. 17 years as a member of a Reconciling Congregation Church that has had that status since the mid 80’s. I have been involved in many different settings at the local and conference level.

**Question D:** Name an Oregon-Idaho strength or concern which you would carry to GC or JC?
Strength, Willingness to take the long walk if necessary. Determination for all of G-d’s children.
2020 General and Jurisdictional Conference Delegate Nominees

Clergy Candidate Information  (see page 2 for lay candidates)

Note: all clergy in full connection are eligible for election and will appear on the ballot. The following persons have been identified as being willing to serve on the delegation, and have completed the process outlined in Conference Rule 2.210.

Duane Anders

Local Church: Boise First UMC
District: Sage

Church-Related Service
- District Superintendent Dayton North, 2002-2007
- DS Miami Valley 2007-2009
- District Colloquy leader Or-Id 2014-Present
- Congregational Development Team Or-Id 2014-Pres.
- Ministry leadership Team Or-Id 2018-Present
- Alternate to General Conference 2016
- Delegate to W. Jurisdictional Conference 2016
- Mission trip leader to Mexico, S Africa
- Visiting professor Wesley Theological Seminary Ho Chi Minh Vietnam 2014-18
- Key Note Speaker Large Church Initiative 2018
- School of Congregational Development presenter 2010, 16, 18
- Key note/ workshop leader in 20 annual Conferences
- Mentor Doctor of Ministry UTS 2010-pres

Community-Related Service
- Kleptz YMCA Board Member 2002-2012
- Idaho Walk to Emmaus Board 2012-2016
- Planned Parenthood Boise Clergy Team
- Active Member of Interfaith Equality Coalition Boise
- Chaplain BSA Troop 100 Boise 2012-pres.

Question A: What is the most important issue facing the UMC today and how would you address it?
We are at a new place in history that calls forth a new expression of an inclusive Wesleyan faith. For years, the west has led the conversation, the actions and normalizing of inclusion. It is time to lead the global church toward a new expression of an inclusive Wesleyan faith. We must lead from our diversity. We must lead from the edges offering agency and voice in new places. We must repent of our sins of exclusion, racism and colonialism as we seek to become a new kin-dom community. We must seek to remove all prohibitive and discriminating language from our book of discipline. We must normalize the reality that all people are of sacred worth and are called by God. It is time to create legislation that will allow for multiple expressions of Methodism. We can create a gracious table. We can create space to separate. We must stop the harm done to our LGBTQ+ friends. We must move beyond our current reality and discover a new capacity for grace.

Question B: What does the UMC need most in order to experience revitalization?
The first step toward revitalization is to Do no harm. We must stop our own self-inflicted harm due to our policies, practices and norms of exclusion and discrimination. Then [remainder of responses exceeded word limit]
Daryl Blanksma

Local Church: Trinity UMC, Eugene
District: Crater Lake

Church-Related Service
- Central District Mission Secretary, 1992-1993
- Member of CF&A, 1993-2000
- Chair of Conference Major Funds Committee, 1994-1995
- Rendezvous ‘95 planning team, 1994-1995
- Instructor UMW School of Christian Mission, 1997
- Western District Committee on Ministry, 2002-2006
- Southern District Leadership Team, 2006-2011
- Chair Commission on Equitable Compensation, 2016-
- Several Years as Camp Dean & Counselor at Sawtooth, Wallowa Lake & Magruder

Community-Related Service
- Mercy House Women’s Shelter, board of directors, 1985-1987
- Volunteer EMT, City of Vale, 1990-1993
- Board of Directors Umatilla Unit American Cancer Society, 1993-1996
- Volunteer Chaplain, Providence Seaside Hospital, 1998-2006
- Ethics Committee, Providence Seaside Hospital, 1998-2005
- Citizen Advisory Loan Review Committee, Seaside, OR, 1999-2000
- Toledo Food Share Pantry Board of Directors, 2014-2017
- Egan Warming Center, 2017 -
- Eugene Gay Men’s Chorus, 2018 -
- Eugene Pride Planning Committee, 2019 -

Question A: What is the most important issue facing the UMC today and how would you address it?
The United Methodist Church as we know it died in the aftermath of General Conference 2019. The question before us now is what will take its place. We cannot continue with the structure we have had for the past 51 years. We have to find a new way of being united (or not) and look to people of color, queer voices, and other marginalized communities to help lead the way to a new expression of the Body of Christ.

Question B: What does the UMC need most in order to experience revitalization?
Revitalization will not happen at the general church or annual conference level. The local church is where revitalization will occur. We need to move beyond our traditionally structured church communities to experiment with creating a variety of expressions of faithful and faith-filled communities.

Question C: What gifts and graces would you bring as a participant around the General Church table?
We need to have more LGBTQ voices around the General Church table.
Ruth Marsh

Local Church: Trinity UMC, Idaho Falls
District: Sage

Church-Related Service
- Member of Conference Sessions Committee (Annual Conference)
- Co-Chair of Legislative Assembly (Annual Conference)

Community-Related Service
- While I do not currently sit on any community boards, I make myself available to the Idaho Falls Food Basket, FISH community services and the Regional Council of Christian Ministries (which Trinity houses)

Question A: What is the most important issue facing the UMC today and how would you address it?

How does our denomination recover from GC 2020? After the Traditionalist Plan passed, that evening, I felt the Holy Spirit move in the room that the Western Bishops had invited the delegations and observers to gather in. What I felt in that room must have been how Wesley’s followers felt when Methodism was born. I want to help mid-wife the new church into being

Question B: What does the UMC need most in order to experience revitalization?

To return to our Wesleyan roots of extending God’s grace and care to all of God’s creation. There is room for everyone at God’s table.

Question C: What gifts and graces would you bring as a participant around the General Church table?

I have been an active observer at the last 3 General Conferences and Jurisdictional Conferences. At GC 2012, 2016, and 2020, I sat by and watched in horror how my LGBTQI siblings were treated, and then did my best to comfort our delegation members as their hearts broke. God has called me to stop observing and jump into the fray. I am particularly interested in attending Western Jurisdictional Conference. I believe that the wisdom I have garnered as an observer these last 12 will be useful to important decisions that will be made in Montana.
Donna Pritchard

**Local Church:** Portland First UMC  
**District:** Columbia

**Church-Related Service**
- Co-Chair, Order of Elders  
- Member, Board of Ordained Ministry  
- 1st Elected clergy delegate to 2016/19 General Conferences  
- Chair, Jurisdictional Leadership Team  
- Member, Committee on Episcopacy  
- Member, WJ Mission Cabinet  
- Member, Commission on a Way Forward (2017-2019)  
- Member, Commission on General Conference (2008-2012)  
- District Superintendent 2003-2011  
- Chair, Committee on Episcopacy (2012-2016)  
- General Conference & Jurisdictional Conference delegate (2008)  
- General Conference Reserve delegate (2012)  
- Volunteer dean or camp counselor; Camp Magruder & Suttle Lake camps  
- Order of Elder Co-Chair/BOM/RIM Lead  
- Senior Pastor, Portland First UMC (2011- current)  
- Pastor, Oregon-Idaho churches (36 years)  
  Several Years as Camp Dean & Counselor at Sawtooth, Wallowa Lake & Magruder

**Community-Related Service**
- Ecumenical association of Downtown Portland pastors (2011-current)  
- Portland Homeless Family Solutions volunteer (2011-2018)  
- Interfaith Movement for Immigrant Justice volunteer (2012-current)

**Question A:** What is the most important issue facing the UMC today and how would you address it?

The recent decisions of General Conference 2019 prohibiting the full inclusion of LGBTQIA+ persons and the subsequent fracturing of the denomination is the most immediate issue facing the UMC today. However, this only hints at the overall systemic dysfunction of the Church, which is seen in our inability to fully include and empower persons of all races, genders, age, abilities, economic class, geographic location, etc. Our history is one of exclusion, the practice of white privilege and colonialism which is far from Wesley’s notion of inclusive grace. I am actively engaged in efforts to create a more inclusive and faithful Church - either through legislative remedy in 2020 or (perhaps more likely), the creation of new forms of Methodism for the 21st century.

**Question B:** What does the UMC need most in order to experience revitalization?

We most need to remember our Wesleyan roots, including the use of the Quadrilateral in our theological and social understandings of the Gospel. We need to create new coalitions working toward new structures which will support, encourage and empower liberation and transformation for individuals, groups and systems. We also need to develop strong lay leadership with particular attention paid to coaching, mentoring and developing leaders among young people and people of color.

**Question C:** What gifts and graces would you bring as a participant around the General Church table?

I have developed extensive networks [remainder of responses exceeded word limit]
Jeremy Smith

Local Church: Seattle First UMC
(appointed to Pacific Northwest Annual Conference from Oregon-Idaho under par. 346.1)

Church-Related Service
- General Commission on Archives and History, Director
- Conference Board on Archives and History
- Jurisdictional Study Committee, sole clergy representative from the Western Jurisdiction.
- District Urban Pastor’s Collective, Convener
- Conference Board of Ordained Ministry
- Conference Board of Camps and Retreats

Community-Related Service
- Local church hosted Women’s March 2019 events and forums
- Participant in the city’s Pride Parade 2013-present
- Supporter/Clergy presence at local groups advocating against domestic violence, gun violence, and immigrant/refugee violations.

Question A: What is the most important issue facing the UMC today and how would you address it?
Before GC2019 I would have said living united in diversity was our greatest challenge. But now I think it’s how we live as a church defined by grace. How do we make God’s grace known to each person? How do we empower all who want to live out their baptismal covenant to do ministry? How do we live into our differences without denying one another’s personhood? We are called to proclaim a grace that disrupts a world driven by fear, anger, bigotry and greed. We must turn this moment of judgment into a movement of grace.

Question C: What gifts and graces would you bring as a participant around the General Church table?
Through my blog Hacking Christianity, for over 10 years I’ve tried to gracefully explain United Methodist polity and shenanigans. With that experience, and as an Oregon-Idaho clergy on loan to the PNW, I would bring varied connections and resources to the conversation to turn hopes into realities.

Question D: Name an Oregon-Idaho strength or concern which you would carry to GC or JC?
I love supporting and promoting Oregon-Idaho’s bold ministries and novel missions. The resiliency of my clergy colleagues have inspired me far more than anything I’ve done. By representing Oregon-Idaho at Conferences, I will keep that resilient spirit at the front of all our work together. Thank you for your consideration of my application for our Jurisdictional delegation.
Wendy Woodworth

Local Church: Morningside UMC, Salem
District: Cascadia

Church-Related Service
• FUMC, Portland, Associate Pastor: 1946-1996
• Fremont UMC, Pastor: 2004-2013
• Open Door Churches, Morningside UMC, Pastor: 2013 - Present
• District Committee on Ministry: Central District 1997-2000, Chairperson 1998-2000
• District Committee on Ministry: Metro District, 2000-2008
• Metro District Church Extension Society: 2002-2008
• CF&A, 8 years member, 4 years chairperson: 2004-2012, 2012-2016
• Agenda Chair and Session Committee for Annual Conference 2011- Present
• Board of Ordained Ministry, 2 years member, 1 year chairperson: 2016- Present
• Reserve Delegate for Jurisdictional Conference 2016-2019
• Ministry Leadership Team: 2018-Present
• Joint Committee on Clergy Medical Leave: 2018-Present
• Survived Attending General Conference 2019 as a reserve delegate.

Community-Related Service
• Habitat for Humanity
• Kairos Soup Kitchen
• Community Homeless Connect, Salem

Question A: What is the most important issue facing the UMC today and how would you address it?
The most important issue is how we move forward in light of General Conference 2019. Primary questions that need addressed are: What are the options for staying within the UMC, if any? How would we proceed with forming a new expression of Methodism and Wesleyan Theology? Who are the partners for a new expression within the Western Jurisdiction and beyond? How do we include the voices that have been marginalized ~ LGBTQIA, people of color and young adults. How do we continue staying engaged in ministry while we are in a painful time of uncertainty?

Question C: What gifts and graces would you bring as a participant around the General Church table?
I bring experience being at General and Jurisdictional Conference and meetings. I bring the voice and experience of an “Out Clergy” who is in a same-sex marriage that is part of a 25 year committed relationship. I know the harm that is done by the years of “don’t ask, don’t tell.” I know the joy of now being my true and fullest self publically, of celebrating same-sex weddings in the church community and sanctuary, and mentoring young members of the LGBTQI community as they grow in their faith and identity.

Question D: Name an Oregon-Idaho strength or concern which you would carry to GC or JC?
Commitment to a fully inclusive church.