

DELEGATE ELECTIONS



THE WASHINGTON CONFERENCE LAY INSTITUTE TRAINING

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2022

SIS. GLEN WHITE, PRESIDENT

SIS. KIMBERLY MITCHELL, DOLA

SIS. NIKKI THOMPSON. YAR

SIS. ADRIENNE R. WARREN – PRESENTER

SECOND EPISCOPAL DISTRICT DIRECTOR OF LAY ACTIVITIES



DELEGATE ELECTIONS

CONFERENCES

- The GENERAL Conference
(Quadrennially – Every 4 years)
- The ANNUAL Conference
(Annually – Every year)
- The DISTRICT Conference
(Every year)

CONVENTIONS

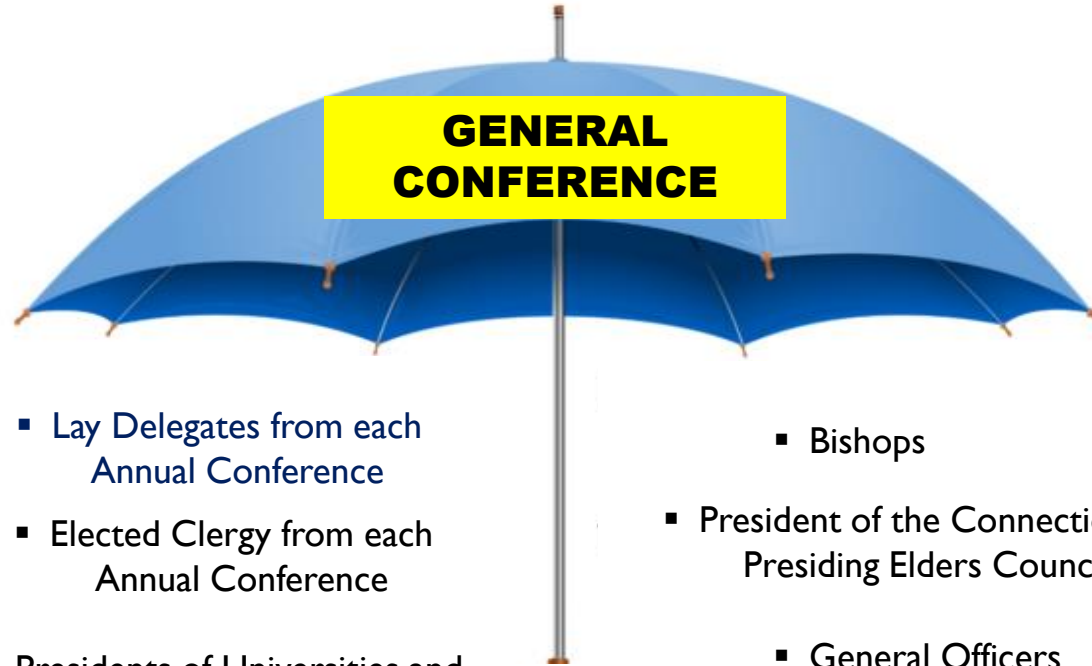
- The Connectional Lay Biennial Convention
(Biennially – Every other year)
- The Episcopal District Lay Convention
(Every 2 years)

GENERAL CONFERENCE

The Doctrine and Discipline of the African Methodist Episcopal Church – 2016 (Reference-pp. 247-266)

The composition of the General Conference shall be the bishops; the general officers elected by the General Conference; the General Secretary/CIO of the General Conference; the presidents of the universities and colleges; the deans of seminaries that have been in operation continuously for one or more years prior to the General Conference; president and treasurer of the Women's Missionary Society; the editor of the Women's Missionary Magazine, the director of the Young People's and Children's Division; the Connectional presidents of Women in Ministry; Richard Allen Young Adult Council (RAYAC); Young People's and Children's Division (YPD) and Lay Organization; Episcopal District Lay Presidents; the president of the Connectional Council; the Executive Director and Medical Director of the Health Commission; active-duty military and veterans administration chaplains who have been ordained for a least four years preceding the General Conference and those who are retired with a minimum of twenty years of service in the Armed Forces of the United States; former World War II Chaplains who are in good and regular standing in their annual conferences; the administrators of all Connectional institutions (i.e., Douglas Hospital); the president of the Connectional Presiding Elders Council; and elected clergy and **lay delegates** from each annual conference.

COMPOSITION OF THE GENERAL CONFERENCE



GENERAL CONFERENCE

- Dean of Seminaries
- President & Treasurer of WMS
- Active Duty Military & Veterans Administration Chaplains
- YPD Director
- Lay Delegates from each Annual Conference
- Elected Clergy from each Annual Conference
- Presidents of Universities and Colleges
- Episcopal District Lay Presidents
- President of the Connectional Council
- Bishops
- President of the Connectional Presiding Elders Council
- General Officers
- General Secretary (CIO)
- Executive Director & Medical Director of the Health Commission
- Administrators of all Connectional Institutions
- Connectional Presidents:
 - Women in Ministry (WIM)
 - Richard Allen Young Adult Council (RAYAC)
 - YPD
 - Lay Organization
 - Editor Women's Missionary Magazine

LAY DELEGATES

- a. Every pastor shall publish a notice of the Church Conference that is to elect lay representatives or delegates from her/her local church to the Electoral College at least two weeks prior to the election.
- b. The election must be held at least three months prior to the meeting of the Electoral College. Only full members (18 years of age and older) of said local church shall be eligible to vote or to be elected a delegate. A majority of those present and voting shall determine the elected delegate and alternate delegate, and no proxy vote shall be counted either at the election of the local church or at the election held and at the Electoral College.
- c. The young adults shall elect their delegates to the Electoral College at the same time, but in a separate place from the election of the adult delegates.

QUALIFICATIONS OF LAY DELEGATES

Every lay member elected a delegate by an Electoral College shall be a member of said college and a person of good, natural or acquired ability who knows and loves *The Doctrine and Discipline of the African Methodist Episcopal Church* and has maintained a full, good and regular membership in said church four consecutive years next preceding the General Conference, and shall have been a member of his or her local church for six months next preceding the meeting of the Electoral College.

ELECTING LAY DELEGATES TO THE GENERAL CONFERENCE

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LOCAL CHURCH

ANNUAL
CONFERENCE

GENERAL CONFERENCE

LAY ELECTORAL COLLEGE

- The Electoral College shall assemble at the place and hour designated by the Annual Conference and shall organize according to the custom of delegated bodies.

ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The Doctrine and Discipline of the African Methodist Episcopal Church – 2016 (Reference-pp. 266)

The Annual Conference shall be composed of all traveling elders and deacons, all local elders and deacons and all licentiates; the presidents of the Conference Lay Organization and the Missionary Society, and the Conference Directors of Christian Education, Music and YPD, together **with one elected lay member and at least one elected layperson between the ages of eighteen to thirty-five (18-35), when possible, from each charge within its bounds.**

COMPOSITION OF THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE



- All Traveling Elders & Deacons
- All Local Elders and Deacons and all Licentiates
- Presidents of the Conference Lay Organization and the Missionary Society
- Conference Directors of Christian Education, Music, and YPD
- One elected Lay Member from each charge
- At least one elected layperson between the ages of 18-35 from each charge

DISTRICT CONFERENCE

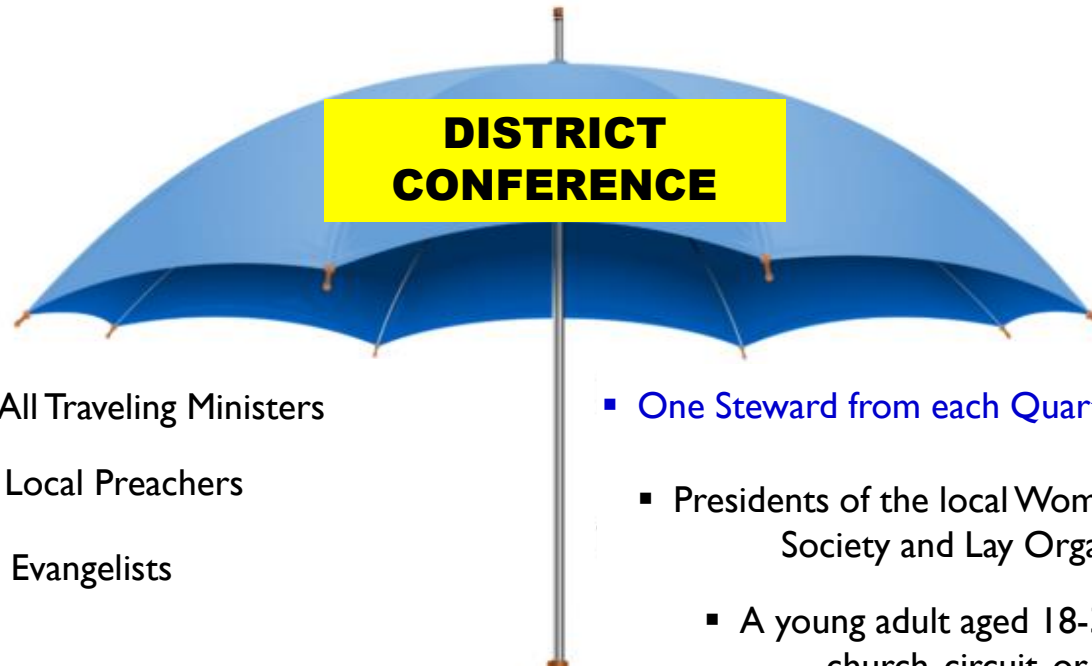
The Doctrine and Discipline of the African Methodist Episcopal Church – 2016 (Reference-pp. 288-291)

The District Conference provides the opportunity for the pastors, itinerant and local preachers, and lay workers to evaluate the work of the local churches and their positions, and through in-service programs, to sharpen their skills, develop new ones and receive fresh insight into the life and work of the Church of Jesus Christ through the Holy Spirit.

The Presiding Elder of the District shall be the chairperson of the conference, but if a Bishop is present, he or she shall be asked to preside. In the absence of both, the Presiding Elder and the bishop, the conference shall elect a chairperson pro tem.

The District Conference shall be composed of all traveling ministers, local preachers, evangelists, **one steward from each quarterly conference**, presidents of the local Women's Missionary Society and Lay Organization, and a young adult aged 18-35 from each church, circuit, or station. The **steward shall be elected** by ballot at the first (1st) quarterly conference after the annual conference session.

COMPOSITION OF THE DISTRICT CONFERENCE



- All Traveling Ministers
- Local Preachers
- Evangelists
- One Steward from each Quarterly Conference
- Presidents of the local Women's Missionary Society and Lay Organization
- A young adult aged 18-35 from each church, circuit, or station

BIENNIAL LAY CONVENTION

The Doctrine and Discipline of the African Methodist Episcopal Church – 2016 (Reference-p. 473)

The Connectional Lay Organization membership to the Biennial Session shall be as follows:

- a. All elected officers of the Connectional Lay Organization.
- b. All persons holding the designation and/or office of President Emeritus.
- c. All Episcopal District Lay Organization Presidents, and Directors of Lay Activities and Young Adult Representatives (YAR).
- d. **Six (6) elected delegates from each Episcopal District Lay Organization, of whom at least one (1) shall be a young adult Representative, ages 18-35.**
- e. **Conference Lay Organization Presidents, and Directors of Lay Activities and Young Adult Representatives (YAR).**
- f. **Six (6) elected delegates from each Conference Lay Organization, of whom at least one (1) shall be a young adult Representative, ages 18-35.**
- g. District Lay Organization of an Annual Conference
- h. **Each president or elected representative of each organized Station or Circuit organization.**

EPISCOPAL DISTRICT LAY CONVENTION

Section XV – Subordinate Bodies

The Doctrine and Discipline of the African Methodist Episcopal Church – 2016 (Reference-pp. 493)

Section 1. Episcopal District Lay Organization-The Episcopal District Lay Organization shall be composed of:

- a. all elected officers;
- b. all Presidents and Directors of Lay Activities and Young Adult Representatives of Conference Organizations;
- c. **six (6) elected delegates from each Conference Lay Organization, at least one of whom shall be a young adult, ages 18-35;**
- d. District Lay Organization of an Annual Conference
- e. District Lay Organization of an Annual Conference
- f. any elected officers of the Connectional Lay Organization who are members of an organized Station or Circuit Lay Organization in the Episcopal District;
- g. **each President and six (6) elected delegates, at least one of whom shall be a young adult, ages 18-35, from each Station or Circuit.**