

Instructions & Notes for the 2019 Church Conference

Agenda: The 2019 church Conference Agenda has been created for a typical church conference session led as a “stand alone meeting”. This can be adjusted by the pastor and DS done during Sunday worship. Please ask your Lay Leader (or alternate) to prepare an Opening Prayer. The Songs at the opening and closing of Church Conference are chosen by the pastor. Please arrange for an accompanist, if needed.

Room Set-Up: Set the room space to encourage intimate worship and comfortable small-group discussion.

Printed Handouts & Reports:

There will be no media presentation needs at this Church Conference. However, please make enough **printed copies of the AC Shepherding Team Strategic Goals Brochure**, the **Nominations Report for 2020**, and the **Budget for 2020** for every person in attendance.

Lay Ministry Reports:

Certified Lay Servants, Certified Lay Speakers, and Certified Lay Ministers must submit an annual report to the Conference Lay Servant Ministries team. They are to bring their completed annual reports (found at www.umcnic.org/churchconference) to the Church Conference to receive the Pastor’s and District Superintendent’s signature. They are to then SUBMIT these signed reports online to the Conference Lay Servant Ministries team (www.umcnic.org/lay-servant-ministries/lay-servant-form-upload)

This year’s work of Holy Conferencing:

We desire to be a diverse (geography, race, economic, sexual orientation, ethnic, gender identity) but united in Christ. We also want to be an Annual conference united in some shared goals that are lived out in ways relevant to our context for ministry. The year, our Holy Conferencing will be a time for for sharing and listening to each other about our future. People should gather into one of the three groups to reflect on the questions for a particular goal.

Business of the Church Conference: The District Superintendent or Presiding Elder will acknowledge the receipt of the required reports (due two weeks prior to the scheduled conference). Only the business requiring church conference action will take place. If there is additional business that the church conference needs to cover, please let your District Superintendent know a week ahead of time.

A Time for Fellowship: A time for fellowship before or after the Church Conference is encouraged.