

Lay Member to the Annual Conference

Required by the 2008 Book of Discipline of the United Methodist Church? Yes

The annual conference is the annual meeting of the lay and clergy members of a particular geographical region, which is also called a conference. Each conference is assigned a bishop who has authority over the United Methodist churches within the geographical region. The meeting sets directions and budget for the area churches under the conference. The bishop appoints clergy members to their place of service for the next year. The United Methodist Church of Savage and the cooperative parish to which it is connected are part of the Baltimore/Washington Conference.

Responsibilities

- Participates in the annual conference sessions, including voting on all matters except those pertaining to ministerial relations.
- Reports to the congregation in the week following the annual conference session and to the church council at its next meeting, or within three months after the close of the conference session.
- Interprets, with the pastor, the actions of the annual conference session to the congregation.
- Serves as a member of the Staff/Pastor Parish Relations Committee (SPRC), Church Administrative Council, and Finance Committee.

Lay member of the annual conference must have been a professing member in good standing of The United Methodist Church for at least one year prior to taking the position.

Time Required of the Lay Member to the Annual Conference:

Lay members to the annual conference are required to attend the annual conference. For purposes of the United Methodist Church of Savage this will be the Baltimore/Washington Annual Conference. This meeting is generally held in May or June and covers two and a half to three days. The bishop may occasionally call extra sessions if there is emergent business. Attending the conferences and other sessions may require members to take time from work.

Additional time will be spent in participating at meetings of the SPRC (four to six meetings per year), the Church Administrative Council (usually once per month, except July and August) and the finance committee (three to four meetings per year).

Volunteers do not necessarily have the time; they have the heart.

Committee Day Potluck Luncheon on May 16.

Come and see where you can give back to the church.