

October 10, 2014

Potential Delegates of the Annual Conference,

It is time to begin our process of election of clergy and laity members to represent the Texas Annual Conference at the General and Jurisdictional Conferences. This election will take place at our Annual Conference 2015.

You may remember that the 2012 Book of Discipline, Paragraph 35/36 states: *The (clergy delegates/lay delegates) to the General and jurisdictional or central conference shall be elected by the (clergy members of the annual conference or the provisional 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 of study or an M.Div. degree and have served a minimum of two consecutive years under appointments immediately preceding the election/annual conference/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.)*

As stated in the “Conference Rules and Structure,” a profile booklet of eligible candidates will be provided to all voting members of the Conference. The structure states in Section 10: Additional Procedures, I. Clergy and Laity Candidate Profile Booklet: *Eligible clergy members and eligible laity willing to be considered for election as a delegate to General or Jurisdictional Conferences are requested to complete a candidate profile sheet for inclusion in a candidate profile booklet which shall be mailed with the Pre-Conference Journal. Eligible persons willing to be considered must agree to attend delegation meetings, to prepare themselves by studying all assigned materials, and to make the necessary preparations to be effective delegates. If any eligible person who is not included in the booklet receives a vote on any ballot, then the individual will be assigned a number to be included in the remainder of the balloting process.*

Additionally, the Core Leadership Team identifies the requirement that delegates acknowledge that financial commitments may be incumbent on those willing to attend General and/or jurisdictional conferences.

If you are willing to stand for election, you will need to complete the process outlined in this letter. You will find a Profile Sheet included in this notice. All signed forms from the Profile Sheet will be kept on file and copies provided to the elected delegation after annual conference in 2015. All Profile Sheets and electronic photos are due no later than a postmark of December 31, 2014.

Rev. B.T. Williamson