

Are YOU interested in being a District Lay Equalization Member to Annual Conference?

In preparation for the 9th Session of The Upper New York Annual Conference, and in accordance with Book of Discipline, we will need a number of Equalization Members for our Annual Conference session in Syracuse, New York from **May 30-June 2, 2018**.

Please note that the Clergy and Laity Sessions will take place on Wednesday, May 30! You will need to attend that as well as Thursday-Saturday sessions.

In order to fulfill our obligation to equalize our voting membership, each District Superintendent will be working with his/her District Lay Leader to recruit and invite 27 Equalization Members. This should include the following:

- At least one young person between the ages of 12 and 17 (we would like 8 youth)
- At least one young person between the ages of 18 and 30
- Any Certified Lay Ministers (CLM) and/or Lay Supply Pastors serving in local churches within the District
- Seminary students, including declared and certified candidates for ministry

In keeping with the proposed rules for appointing Equalization Lay Members, "Youth (in consultation with district youth leadership) should be given a priority for at least one-third of these memberships..." *All Equalization Members must be professing members of The United Methodist Church.* **Each Equalization Member is responsible for registering for the Annual Conference sessions.** Another suggestion is that in the case of multiple point charges (where only one lay member from the charge is authorized to attend), the congregation not represented could suggest a name to attend as an equalization member.

If you are interested in being a Lay Equalization Member to Annual Conference, please fill out the attached application. If someone doesn't have e-mail, please let us know and we will mail them an application (or you can give them one!). You will be notified if you have been accepted so that you can begin the registration process. **Do not register until you have been notified of acceptance as a delegate.** If any pastor or lay person would like to suggest a name or if they have someone interested as a youth equalization member, please contact the District Office. We will refer the names of youth candidates to the District Council on Youth Ministry leaders, Tony & Judy Hipes.



Your church must send a Lay Member to AC in order to send an Equalization Member. The Lay Member must be noted on your application for it to be accepted. No church charge may have more than one at large Equalization Member. If more than one person from a church applies, the District Superintendent and District Lay Leader will make the final selection.

Registration is \$60 for Equalization Members and you can be reimbursed up to \$50/night (up to three nights) for double occupancy. Equalization Members will not be reimbursed for travel.

Youth Equalization members will NOT be charged for registration nor will they be charged for their hotel IF THEY STAY in the assigned block of rooms for youth – please contact Tony and Judy Hipes (tandj3905@hotmail.com) with questions about youth registration.