

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

In preparation for the 8th 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 **June 1-3, 2017**. *The total number of Equalization Members to be invited to this year's session is 398. Included in that number are 111 lay persons who are eligible to vote by virtue of office.*

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 **24** 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.

Registration is only \$50 for Equalization Members and you can be reimbursed up to \$50/night (up to two 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.

Niagara Frontier District
2017 Equalization Member Application
PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT CLEARLY!

Name: _____

Local Church: _____

Home Address: _____

Home Telephone: _____ Cell Telephone: _____

E-mail Address: _____

Check all that apply: ☐ Youth (12-17 yrs) ☐ Young Adult (18-30 yrs) ☐ Ethnic ☐ At Large

Have you served as an Equalization Member previously? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If yes, list year(s): _____

List the leadership positions you have held for the last three years within your local church, the district,
and conference: _____

Why do you want to serve as an Equalization Member? _____

I request to serve as an Equalization Member to Annual Conference Session on June 1-3, 2017 in
Syracuse, New York, and agree to attend **all sessions**:

Signature

Pastor's Signature

Completed forms may be returned by fax, e-mail or regular mail (one option only, please)

716-276-8632 fax

NiagaraFrontier@unyumc.org

Niagara Frontier District, 247 Cayuga Rd., Suite 70, Cheektowaga, NY 14225-1900

DEADLINE: March 3, 2017

You will be notified whether or not you are accepted as an equalization member for 2017