

**Arkansas Conference of The United Methodist Church
2020 Clergy Session
Session Rules**

Business of the 2020 Clergy Session

The following will be adopted at the beginning of the business session of the 2020 Clergy Session by majority vote:

1. Session Rules;
2. Session Agenda.

Meeting of the 2020 Clergy Session

1. Due to safety concerns associated with the Covid-19 global pandemic, the 2020 Clergy Session will be held by remote communication via an online Zoom platform consistent with Arkansas Governor Asa Hutchinson's April 13, 2020 Executive Order #20-15.
2. For all purposes, this electronically conducted meeting is deemed to be the equivalent of an in-person meeting.
3. All clergy members of the annual conference and lay members of the Board of Ordained Ministry may attend and shall have voice in the clergy session.
4. Members of the Clergy Session, with the right to vote, will include:
 - a. clergy members in full connection;
 - b. associate clergy members who are members of the Board of Ordained Ministry;
 - c. local pastors who are members of the Board of Ordained Ministry;
 - d. laity who are members of the Board of Ordained Ministry or Committee on Investigation.
5. Arkansas Conference staff who are providing technical support may be present during the meeting: Amy Ezell, Jacob Turner, Day Davis, Caleb Hennington, Christina Cho, Palmer Lee and Danielle Adkisson. The Conference Chancellor, Michelle Ator, may be present during the meeting.
6. The bar of the Clergy Session shall include all members who log in through the Zoom login information for the Clergy Session provided by the Arkansas Conference office and all members who are registered at established circuit elder sites.
7. Members of the Clergy Session are responsible for ensuring that all necessary technology on the member's side of the meeting is in proper working order prior to the meeting. Those present will be counted by electronic log-in and email reports by Circuit Elders, and are deemed to be present for the meeting and will constitute a quorum.
8. All votes taken shall be conducted in accordance with *The Book of Discipline of the United Methodist Church* and the 2020 Session Rules. Poll logs will be maintained for all votes.
9. The meeting will be conducted in a manner such that all participants are afforded a reasonable opportunity to simultaneously hear discussion. Only items in the published agenda will be considered. All participants will have the right to speak and address those in attendance. All those who have the right to vote will be able to vote on all matters submitted during the meeting.

10. Robert's Rules of Order shall be the procedural authority for the clergy session of the Arkansas Conference when not in conflict with Session Rules, *The Book of Discipline of the United Methodist Church*, The Arkansas Conference Standing Rules or State of Arkansas Executive Order #20-15.
11. Points of Order may be raised by any member of the clergy session, who must first cite the Session or Standing Rule, *The Book of Discipline*, or Robert's Rules of Order involved and then state the point as briefly and concisely as possible.