
**Announcement of In-Person Annual Conference Session
Saturday, May 13, 2023**

Bishop Laura Merrill, with concurrence of the District Superintendents and in accordance with ¶1603.5 of *The Book of Discipline of the United Methodist Church*, has called a Special In-Person Session of the Arkansas Annual Conference to be held in Horner Hall at the Hot Springs Convention Center on Saturday, May 13, 2023 from 10:00 am - 6:00 pm in Hot Springs, Arkansas.

This special session has been called to address the following issue, and is limited to addressing only this issue:

The consideration of ratification of disaffiliation agreements from the Conference Board of Trustees with various congregations of the Arkansas Conference of the United Methodist Church, in accordance with ¶12553 of The 2016 Book of Discipline of the United Methodist Church, the Principles adopted at the 2021 Arkansas Annual Conference Session and Judicial Council Decision 1379.

All current clergy members of the Arkansas Annual Conference, including appointed local pastors, are authorized to participate. Lay members authorized to participate are those lay members or alternates who were last seated at the June, 2022 Annual Conference Session as provided by ¶1602.5 of *The Book of Discipline of the United Methodist Church*. Any lay member unable to attend because of death, serious illness or cessation of membership who cannot be replaced by an alternate to the June, 2022 Annual Conference Session may be replaced by a lay member duly elected by the charge conference.