

# 2019 SPECIAL SESSION

*Pre-Conference Briefing*

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## Attention church office:

Please ensure that your church's Lay Member(s) to Annual Conference and clergy have received a copy of these materials. If they did not, a copy of the Bishop's message and the following pages are available for download at [www.dscumc.org/ac](http://www.dscumc.org/ac).

# LOGISTICS



Rev. Jen Lambert, Annual Conference Secretary

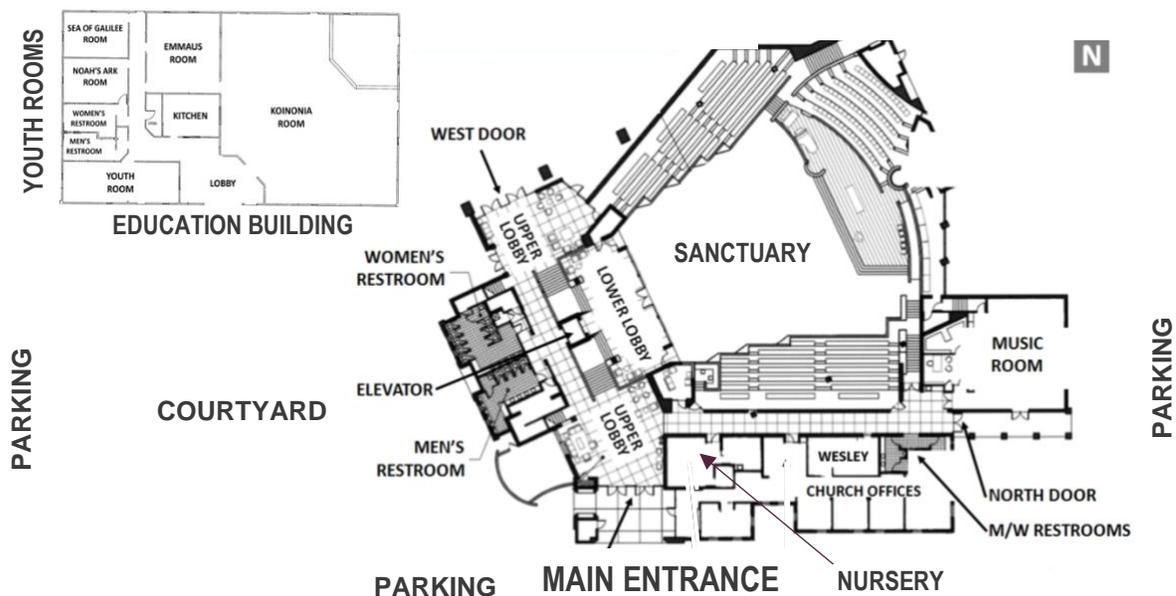
## About the venue

The Special Session will take place at Gold Canyon UMC, located at 6640 S Kings Ranch Rd, Gold Canyon, AZ 85118. For those of you that are flying in, Phoenix-Mesa Gateway is the closest airport to the venue. There are multiple hotels within a 15 minute drive and one small hotel across the street from the church. The hotel information is included in your registration confirmation message.

When you arrive at Gold Canyon UMC, you'll notice two large buildings. The Special Session will take place in the larger building in the Sanctuary. As you walk in through the double doors you'll be directed to one of four stations where you can pick up your voting cards. To help keep the costs down, you are invited to wear your church name tag.

Persons with vote and voice will need to sit in the lower level of the Sanctuary. If you have difficulty seeing at a distance, you are encouraged to sit at the front for a better view of the display screen. If you like to take notes, please bring something to write on. We will be seated in rows without tables.

Watch the video tour available at [www.dscumc.org/ac](http://www.dscumc.org/ac) to familiarize yourself with the church campus or the campus map.



## Registration

Online registration is available at [www.dscumc.org/ac](http://www.dscumc.org/ac) at \$20 per person. If you register after September 1, there will be a late fee of \$35. Check in will begin at 7:30 AM and the conference will begin at 9:00 AM with a projected end time of 5:00 PM. Gold Canyon does not have power outlets throughout the Sanctuary. We will use paper instead of electronic devices and color-coded cards for voting, making a motion, and for addressing the Bishop and Annual Conference members at a microphone. Please download and print the legislation packet available at [www.dscumc.org/ac](http://www.dscumc.org/ac) or contact Cynthia Satchel at [csatchel@dscumc.org](mailto:csatchel@dscumc.org) by September 9 to request a printed copy to be mailed to you. Please read through the legislation packet in advance of the Special Session.

Box lunches are included with the registration and will be available for pick up at the Education Building during the lunch break.

# LEGISLATION PROCEDURES

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Trinity Donovan,  
Legislation Coordinator

## Special Session Bar

¶ **602.5 Special Session membership:** “In the case of a special session of annual conference the lay member or alternate, whoever was last seated in the annual conference, shall be seated in a special session of the annual conference when convened, provided that no local charge shall be deprived of its lay member due to death, serious illness, or cessation of membership.” Clergy shall attend under the same membership category as they attended the 2019 Annual Conference.

Clergy and Lay Members that have voice and vote must sit in the lower level of the sanctuary, not in the wings. Friends or family may sit with you in that area but that does not give them voice or voting rights.

## Voting

All members with voice or vote will receive two cards. Voting members will have one blue card and one white card. Non-voting members and alternates will have one green card and one white card. When the Bishop asks for a show of hands to vote, voting delegates will raise their blue card to have their vote counted. If a voting member leaves the room, their

blue voting card should be given to their alternate so that a vote can be cast in their absence. Paper ballots may be used at the Bishop's discretion. Ushers will hand out paper ballots to voting members showing their blue card.

**Newly licensed local pastors that were not eligible to vote in the 2019 Annual Conference are eligible to vote during the Special Session. Lay Alternate(s) have voting rights only if their church's Lay Member(s) cannot attend. In that situation the Alternate Member uses the absent Lay Member's voting card. Questions about voting rights for the Special Session may be directed to Cynthia Satchel at [csatchel@dscumc.org](mailto:csatchel@dscumc.org).**

We will address the previously submitted legislation first, in the order provided in the packet of materials. Those who have submitted legislation will be invited to present by the bishop.

Some membership categories restrict some voting privileges. Please review the list in the Reminders & Other Information section to find a detailed list of who can vote on what items of legislation.

### **How to make a motion**

A motion could be a resolution, an amendment, or a question. If you have a resolution prepared in advance that you intend to present during Annual Conference but did not make the deadline, please contact Trinity Donovan, the Legislation Coordinator, at [trinityd@gmail.com](mailto:trinityd@gmail.com) in advance so that she can work with you to ensure the document is in the correct format. During the Special Session, you'll need present your resolution by making a motion.

**First**, you must fill out a Motion form. Motion forms will be available at the tables near the glass doors at the sanctuary entrance, but you may also raise a white card to ask an Usher to bring a Motion form to you.

**Next**, raise your blue or green card and wait for the Bishop to call you to one of the two stationary microphones. If you are unable to make your way to the microphone indicated by the Bishop, an usher can bring a portable microphones to you. In that situation, please stand if you are able as you address the Bishop and members of the Annual Conference. Begin your motion by stating your name and your church.

Our Conference rules limit individuals to one speech on any one question; individuals are limited to three minutes. The time limit also applies to point of privilege statements.

**Finally**, if your motion is accepted, bring your Motion form to Trinity Donovan. She will type your motion and prepare it for display on the big screen when the Bishop calls for it. If you already worked with her, please say so during your time at the mic so that the Bishop knows that your motion is ready to display on the screen.

## **LEGISLATION SUMMARY**

\*delayed from the June 2019 Annual Conference

\*\*revised from the June 2019 Annual Conference

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### **I. Resolution: Adoption of Desert Southwest Conference Theological Statement with Supporting Documentation**

- Adopt the attached theological statement of the Desert Southwest Conference Way Forward
- Adopt the attached Executive Summary
- Commit to a theological foundation that all persons are welcomed

### **II. Resolution: Integrity of Faithfulness\*\***

- Ensure the rights of all people to follow their hearts and live from a place of integrity of faith
- Encourage the bishop and annual conference leaders to investigate conditions that would support the ability of people to live by an integrity of faith

### **III. Resolution: Respecting Cultural Differences\***

- Work with the Western Jurisdiction to allow the General Discipline to be changed and adapted as conditions may require
- Afford the Western Jurisdiction powers that Central Conferences have to change and adapt the General Discipline
- Allow the Western Jurisdiction to live into a new way of being

### **IV. Resolution: Preserve Our Connectionalism\*\***

- Seek to remain together
- Take whatever steps necessary including a special western jurisdiction conference to preserve unity
- Designate delegates elected to 2020 western jurisdiction Conference to serve as representatives to any specially called conference

### **V. Resolution: Renouncing Divisive and Destructive Strategies with Supporting Documentation\*\***

- Affirm future actions to further divide or eliminate The United Methodist Church or its successor denominations
- Contact the Confessing Movement, the Good News Movement, the Institute on Religion and Democracy, the Wesleyan Covenant Association and other renewal organizations
- Contact Church and Society to urge focus on efforts of unity

### **VI. Resolution: Dialogue with Central Conference Leaders**

- Encourage Bishop Hoshibata and the Council of Bishops to dialogue with leaders of the Central Conference

- Encourage the U.S. delegates to create a structure allowing the U.S. Conference and the Central Conferences to vote separately on social issues while continuing to work together to support mission and ministry

**VII. Resolution: From the Amicable Separation Team**

- Pray for one another
- Allow for contextual ministry
- Model that all people are of sacred worth
- Strengthen our support of LGBTQ persons so they are able to joyfully and safely serve in ministry in the Desert Southwest Conference

\*delayed from the June 2019 Annual Conference  
 \*\*revised from the June 2019 Annual Conference

**VIII. Resolution: Negotiating Separation**

- DSC seek and support a pathway of amicable separation

# REMINDERS

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- Wear your church name tag or badge.
- Bring a clipboard or pad of paper, and a writing utensil (optional)
- We will not have charging stations or tables.
- We recommend you bring a water bottle and if you tend to get cold, bring a sweater, light jacket, or wrap.

**READ AND BRING THE LEGISLATION PACKET WITH YOU TO THE SPECIAL SESSION**

Download and print the legislation packet from [www.dscumc.org/ac](http://www.dscumc.org/ac) or email Cynthia Satchel at [csatchel@dscumc.org](mailto:csatchel@dscumc.org) by September 9 to request a printed packet in the mail.

**Voting privileges**

- **All laity listed under I.** have the right to voice and vote on all matters of the annual conference except:
  - Matters of ordination, character, and conference relation of clergy (unless a member of the BOM)
  - Election of clergy delegates to General and Jurisdictional Conference.
- **Any laity participating as an alternate (III.)** has the right to voice and vote as listed above *if* their lay member has left the floor (or been dismissed due to illness or other reasons.)
- **Voting privileges of clergy members of annual conference**
- **Deacons and Elders in full including those in retired relationship have voice and vote on all matters except:**
  - **The election of the conference lay leader**
  - **The election of lay delegates to general and jurisdictional conference.**
- **Provisional members (elder and deacon track) have voice and vote on all matters except:**
  - **The election of the conference lay leader**

- **The election of lay delegates to general and jurisdictional conference.**
- **Constitutional amendments**
- Matters of ordination, character, and conference relation of clergy (unless a member of the BOM)
- **Provisional members *who have not finished all of the educational requirements shall not vote on the election of clergy delegates to general and jurisdictional conference.***
- **Associate members have voice and vote on all matters except:**
  - **The election of the conference lay leader**
  - **The election of lay delegates to general and jurisdictional conference.**
  - **Constitutional amendments**
  - Matters of ordination, character, and conference relation of clergy (unless a member of the BOM)
- **Affiliate members have voice and vote on all matters except:**
  - **The election of the conference lay leader**
  - **The election of lay delegates to general and jurisdictional conference.**
  - **Constitutional amendments**
  - Matters of ordination, character, and conference relation of clergy (unless a member of the BOM)
  - **The election of clergy delegates to general and jurisdictional conference.**
- **Local Pastors:**
  - A. **Local pastor under appointment (full and part time) who have not completed course of study or an M.Div. and served two consecutive years under appointment have voice and vote on all matters except:**
    - **The election of the conference lay leader**
    - **The election of lay delegates to general and jurisdictional conference.**
    - **Constitutional amendments**
    - Matters of ordination, character, and conference relation of clergy (unless a member of the BOM)
    - **The election of clergy delegates to general and jurisdictional conference.**
  - B. **Local pastor under appointment (full and part time) who have completed course of study or an M.Div. and served two consecutive years under appointment have voice and vote on all matters except:**
    - **The election of the conference lay leader**
    - **The election of lay delegates to general and jurisdictional conference.**
    - **Constitutional amendments**
    - Matters of ordination, character, and conference relation of clergy (unless a member of the BOM)
  - C. **Retired local pastors not serving under appointment have voice only. They may not vote.**
  - D. **Retired local pastors serving under appointment – see A and B.**