2016 General Conference Schedule

**Registration**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Saturday, May 7</td>
<td>1:00 P.M. to 5:00 P.M.</td>
<td>Central Conference Delegate &amp; Interpreter Registration at Convention Center</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday, May 8</td>
<td>12:00 P.M. to 4:00 P.M.</td>
<td>Central Conference Delegate &amp; Interpreter Registration at Convention Center</td>
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<td></td>
<td>5:00 P.M. to 7:30 P.M.</td>
<td>Delegate &amp; Official Participant Registration at Convention Center</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday, May 9</td>
<td>8:00 A.M. to 7:30 P.M.</td>
<td>Registration (all categories) at Convention Center</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday, May 10</td>
<td>8:00 A.M. to 7:30 P.M.</td>
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<td>Wednesday, May 11</td>
<td>8:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M.</td>
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Registration will be closed during opening worship on Tuesday. Registration after 2:00 P.M. on Wednesday, May 11 will be in Room B119, Office of the Secretary of the General Conference

**Agenda and Program**

Following is the overall program of the 2016 General Conference in Portland, Oregon. The Committee on Agenda will plan in detail each day’s business schedule once the Conference convenes. The first week is assumed to be for legislative committee work through Saturday, and the second week is for plenary sessions. **All times listed are considered “Orders of the Day”.** Announcements will be held prior to the end of each Plenary as necessary.

**Saturday, May 7**

9:00 – 10:30 A.M.
Registration Booth Worker & Computer Operator Orientation

10:30 A.M. – 12:00 P.M.
Registration Computer Operator Orientation

**Sunday, May 8**

2:00 – 8:00 P.M.
Orientation for Central Conference Delegates

**Monday, May 9**

8:00 A.M. – 5:30 P.M.
Standing Committee on Central Conference Matters

9:00 A.M. – 9:30 P.M.
Committee on Reference

9:30 – 11:30 A.M.
Briefing for Central Conference Women Delegates (Not official activities of the General Conference)

10:00 A.M. – 9:30 P.M.
Committee on Calendar and Agenda

1:30 P.M.
Dedication of Prayer Room and Prayer Walk

2:00 – 5:00 P.M.
Tablet Training – Central Conference Delegates

2:00 – 5:00 P.M.
Orientation of Legislative Committee Recorders

4:00 – 9:30 P.M.
Orientation for Marshals and Pages

6:30 – 8:30 P.M.
Briefing for Women Delegates (Not official activities of the General Conference)

**Tuesday, May 10**

8:00 – 9:00 A.M.
Orientation for Heads of Delegations

9:00 A.M. – 12:00 P.M.
Tablet Training – Central Conference Delegates

9:00 A.M. – Committees continue to meet as necessary
Standing Committee on Central Conference Matters
Committee on Reference
Committee on Calendar and Agenda

9:00 A.M. – Organization of Committees
Committee on Courtesies and Privileges
Committee on Credentials
Committee on the Journal
Committee on Presiding Officers

9:00 A.M.
Orientation for Seminary Students

9:30 – 11:30 A.M. – Briefings (See notes at end of Agenda)
Briefing for Youth and Young Adult Delegates
A Briefing for Delegates of Color and Allies (Not official activities of the General Conference)

10:30 A.M.
Committee on Correlation and Editorial Revision

12:15 – 1:30 P.M.
Orientation for First-time Delegates

2:00 – 3:30 P.M.
Opening Worship & Holy Communion
– Preacher: Bishop Warner Brown, Jr.

3:30 – 4:30 P.M.
Call to Order
Invitation to Authentic Engagement and Inter-cultural Competency
Christian Conferencing
Presentation by the Committee on Faith and Order

4:30 – 4:45 P.M.
Afternoon Break

4:45 – 6:30 P.M.
Organization of the General Conference
- Roll Call and Setting the Bar of the Conference
- Emergency Procedures, Queueing System Introduction and Testing the Voting System
• Elections
  o Coordinator of the Calendar
  o Inter-jurisdictional Committee on the Episcopacy
  o General Conference Administrative Committees
• Report of the Committee on Agenda and Calendar
• Committee on Presiding Officers
• Announcements

5:00 P.M. – Daily Deadline for DCA Printing
6:30 P.M. Adjournment

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**Wednesday, May 11**

7:00 A.M.
Committee on Calendar and Agenda
Committee on Reference

8:00 – 8:30 A.M.
Worship

8:30 – 10:25 A.M. – Plenary Session
  Episcopal Address (45 minutes)
  Greetings for Portland
  Voting System Demonstration
  Election of Facilitation Group

Reports:
• Committee on Courtesies and Privileges
• Committee on Credentials
• Committee on Correlation and Editorial Revision
• Committee on the Journal
• Committee on Reference
• Committee on Agenda and Calendar
• Committee on Presiding Officers

Announcements

10:25 – 10:45 A.M.
**Morning Break**

10:45 A.M. – 12:45 P.M.
  Christian Conferencing: World Wide Nature of the Church
  (Legislative Committee Rooms)

12:45 – 1:45 P.M.
  **Lunch Recess** – Provided for Delegates

12:55 P.M. – 1:15 P.M.
  Service of Holy Communion
  Presider: Bishop Beverly Shamana

1:45 – 3:45 P.M.
  Organization of the Legislative Committees

3:45 – 7:45 P.M. – Dinner and Mandatory Leadership Training for
  Legislative Committee Chairs, Vice Chairs, Parliamentarians,
  Secretaries, Assistant Secretaries, Recorders, and Sub-
  Committee Chairs
  Small Group Leaders and Facilitation Group

3:45 P.M.
  **Recess for All Others** – on your own

5:00 P.M. – Daily Deadline for DCA Printing

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**Thursday, May 12**

7:00 A.M.
Committee on Agenda and Calendar

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**Friday, May 13**

7:00 A.M.
Committee on Agenda and Calendar
Committee on Reference

8:00 – 8:45 A.M.
Worship
  – Preacher: Bishop Christian Alsted

8:45 – 10:10 A.M. – Plenary Session
  Introduction of Representatives from Affiliated Autonomous
  Churches, Affiliated United Churches and Concordat
  Churches

Reports:
• Committee on Courtesies and Privileges
• Committee on Credentials
• Committee on Correlation and Editorial Revision
• Committee on the Journal
• Committee on Reference
• Committee on Agenda and Calendar

4:20 – 6:20 P.M.
  **Afternoon Break**

5:00 P.M. – Daily Deadline for DCA Printing

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• Committee on the Journal
• Committee on Reference
• Committee on Agenda and Calendar
• Committee on Presiding Officers

Announcements

9:55 – 10:15 A.M.
Morning Break

10:15 A.M. – 12:30 P.M.
Legislative Committees

12:30 – 1:30 P.M.
Lunch Recess – Meal provided for Delegates

12:40 P.M. – 1:10 P.M.
Service of Holy Communion
Presider: Bishop Benjamin Boni

1:30 – 4:00 P.M.
Legislative Committees

4:00 – 4:20 P.M.
Afternoon Break

4:20 – 6:20 P.M.
Legislative Committees

5:00 P.M. – Daily Deadline for DCA Printing

5:30 P.M. – 7:30 P.M.
Dinner Recess – on your own

6:20 – 6:30 P.M.
Closing Devotion (Legislative Committees)
(Adjournment – no later than 9:30 p.m.)

Sunday, May 15

1:00 – 5:00 P.M.
Facilitation Group

Monday, May 16

7:00 A.M.
Committee on Agenda and Calendar
Committee on Reference

8:00 – 9:00 A.M.
Worship
– Preacher: Bishop Cynthia Fierro Harvey
Consecration of Deaconesses and Home Missioners

9:00 – 10:00 A.M.
Opening Prayer
Reports:
• Committee on Courtesies and Privileges
• Committee on Credentials
• Committee on Correlation and Editorial Revision
• Committee on the Journal
• Committee on Reference
• Committee on Agenda and Calendar
• Committee on Presiding Officers

Consent Calendars
Four Areas of Focus (15 minutes)
Vital Congregation Moments (5 minutes)

10:00 – 10:20 A.M.
Morning Break

10:20 A.M. – 12:30 P.M.
Opening Prayer
Voting Demonstrations
Elections:
Trustees of John Street Church
250th Anniversary: John Street Church (7 minutes)
Elections:
Secretary-designate of the General Conference
Commission on the General Conference
General Agencies
Judicial Council
University Senate
Standing Committee on Central Conference Matters

12:30 – 2:00 P.M.
Lunch Recess – on your own

12:40 P.M. – 1:10 P.M.
Service of Holy Communion
Presider: Bishop Linda Lee
2:00 – 4:00 P.M.
Opening Prayer
Global Social Principles (10 Minutes)
Calendar Items & Conference Business
150th Anniversary: United Methodist Women (3:53 P.M.)
(7 minutes)
4:00 – 4:20 P.M.
Afternoon Break
4:20 – 6:10 P.M.
Opening Prayer
Calendar Items & Conference Business
Africa University (5:25 P.M.) (15 minutes)
Higher Education Report (5:40 P.M.) (30 minutes)
5:00 P.M. – Daily Deadline for DCA Printing
6:10 – 6:30 P.M. Closing Devotion
6:30 P.M. Adjournment

Tuesday, May 17

7:00 A.M.
Committee on Agenda and Calendar
Committee on Reference
8:00 – 9:00 A.M.
Worship
Preacher: Bishop Ivan M. Abrahams
General Secretary, World Methodist Council
Methodist Church of Southern Africa
9:00 – 10:00 A.M.
Opening Prayer
Reports:
• Committee on Courtesies and Privileges
• Committee on Credentials
• Committee on Correlation and Editorial Revision
• Committee on the Journal
• Committee on Reference
• Committee on Agenda and Calendar
• Committee on Presiding Officers
Consent Calendars
Ecumenical Introductions
10:00 – 10:20 A.M.
Morning Break
10:20 A.M. – 12:30 P.M.
Opening Prayer
200th Anniversary: Birth of the AME Church (7 minutes)
Facilitation Group Report
Calendar Items & Conference Business
12:30 – 2:00 P.M.
Lunch Recess – on your own
12:40 P.M. – 1:10 P.M.
Service of Holy Communion
Presider: Bishop William McAlilly
2:00 – 4:00 P.M.
Opening Prayer
Recognition of Retiring Bishops
Presentation of new Episcopal Leadership Team
Calendar Items & Conference Business
4:00 – 4:20 P.M.
Afternoon Break
4:20 – 6:10 P.M.
Opening Prayer
Calendar Items & Conference Business
“Missing in Action” – United Methodist Men (6:03 P.M.)
(7 minutes)
5:00 P.M. – Daily Deadline for DCA Printing
6:10 – 6:30 P.M. Closing Devotion
6:30 P.M. Adjournment

Wednesday, May 18

7:00 A.M.
Committee on Agenda and Calendar
Committee on Reference
8:00 – 9:00 A.M.
Worship
Preacher: Bishop James Swanson, Jr.
9:00 – 10:00 A.M.
Opening Prayer
Reports:
• Committee on Courtesies and Privileges
• Committee on Credentials
• Committee on Correlation and Editorial Revision
• Committee on the Journal
• Committee on Reference
• Committee on Agenda and Calendar
• Committee on Presiding Officers
Imagine No Malaria (9:48 A.M.) (12 Minutes)
10:00 – 10:20 A.M.
Morning Break
10:20 A.M. – 12:30 P.M.
Opening Prayer
Calendar Items & Conference Business
Global AIDS Report (12:18 P.M.) (7 minutes)
Vital Congregation Moments (12:25 P.M.) (5 minutes)
12:30 – 2:00 P.M.
Lunch Recess – on your own
12:40 P.M. – 1:10 P.M.
Service of Holy Communion
Presider: Bishop W. Earl Beldsoe
2:00 – 4:00 P.M.
Opening Prayer
Calendar Items & Conference Business
General Board of Pensions and Health Benefits Report
(3:51 P.M.) (7 minutes)
30th Anniversary: DISCIPLE Bible Study (3:58 P.M.) (2 minutes)
4:00 – 4:20 P.M.
Afternoon Break
4:20 – 6:10 P.M.
Open Prayer
Calendar Items & Conference Business
Report on the Sand Creek Massacre (5:40 P.M.)
(30 minutes)
Thursday, May 19

7:00 A.M.
Committee on Agenda and Calendar
Committee on Reference

8:00 – 9:00 A.M.
Worship
– Preacher: Bishop John Yambasu
Commissioning of Missionaries

9:00 – 10:00 A.M.
Opening Prayer
Reports:
- Committee on Courtesies and Privileges
- Committee on Credentials
- Committee on Correlation and Editorial Revision
- Committee on the Journal
- Committee on Reference
- Committee on Agenda and Calendar
- Committee on Presiding Officers
  Calendar Items & Conference Business
  Vital Congregation Moments (9:55 A.M.) (5 Minutes)

10:00 – 10:20 A.M.
Morning Break

10:20 A.M. – 12:30 P.M.
Opening Prayer
Calendar Items & Conference Business
200th Anniversary: Death of Francis Asbury (12:29 P.M.)
(1 minute)

12:30 – 2:00 P.M.
Lunch Recess – on your own

12:40 P.M. – 1:10 P.M.
Service of Holy Communion
Presider: Bishop Jeremiah Park

2:00 – 4:00 P.M.
Opening Prayer
Recognition of Retiring Judicial Council Members
Introduction of new Judicial Council Members
Calendar Items & Conference Business
Recognition of Neil M. Alexander (3:58 P.M.) (2 minutes)

4:00 – 4:20 P.M.
Afternoon Break

4:20 – 6:10 P.M.
Opening Prayer
Calendar Items & Conference Business
Report from the Committee on Peace (6:00 P.M.) (10 minutes)

Korean Association of The United Methodist Church

Friday, May 20

7:00 A.M.
Committee on Agenda and Calendar
Committee on Reference

8:00 – 9:00 A.M.
Worship
– Preacher: Bishop Elaine J.W. Stanovsky

9:00 – 10:00 A.M.
Opening Prayer
Reports:
- Committee on Courtesies and Privileges
- Committee on Credentials
- Committee on Correlation and Editorial Revision
- Committee on the Journal
- Committee on Reference
- Committee on Agenda and Calendar
- Committee on Presiding Officers
  Calendar Items & Conference Business
  Vital Congregation Moments (9:55 A.M.) (5 Minutes)

10:00 – 10:20 A.M.
  Morning Break

10:20 A.M. – 12:30 P.M.
Opening Prayer
GCFA Report
Calendar Items & Conference Business

12:30 – 2:00 P.M.
Lunch Recess – on your own

12:40 P.M. – 1:10 P.M.
Service of Holy Communion
Presider: Bishop John Michael Lowry

2:00 – 4:00 P.M.
Opening Prayer
GC Staff Recognitions (18 minutes)
Recognition of Rev. L. Fitzgerald Reist, II (2 minutes)
Calendar Items & Conference Business

4:00 – 4:20 P.M.
Afternoon Break

4:20 – 6:30 P.M.
Opening Prayer
Calendar Items & Conference Business
Closing Message (15 minutes)
Closing Worship
– Preacher: Bishop Bruce Ough
Final Adjournment

Note:
For the purposes of the General Conference, the Commission on the General Conference offers the following definitions:

Orientation – The act or process of acquainting delegates and other official participants with the processes and procedures of how the General Conference functions and the role of participants within the work of the General Conference.
Briefing – The act or instance of giving instruction or preparatory information to delegates and other official participants relating to legislative matters coming before the General Conference.

The Secretary of the General Conference and the Commission on the General Conference have the primary responsibility of offering orientations to prepare delegates and other official participants for full participation in the work of the General Conference. A variety of other organizations, both official bodies of The United Methodist Church and unofficial groups, may also provide orientations and briefings. If such an event intends to talk about actual legislation under consideration by the General Conference, then the Commission on the General Conference encourages the sponsors to use the title of “Briefing” rather than “Orientation” to communicate more effectively the nature of the event.

The Commission on the General Conference has granted authority to the Business Manager to make space available at the Convention Center for briefings provided by any of the General Agencies of The United Methodist Church to the extent that space is available. The General Conference agenda and registration processes may include briefing provided that they are clearly differentiated that these are events sponsored by specific general agencies and not an official activity of the General Conference under the auspices of the Commission on the General Conference.

The following briefings are offered by General Agencies and are not an official activity of the General Conference under the auspices of the Commission on the General Conference.

- **Briefings for Central Conference Women Delegates and all Women Delegates** – sponsored by the General Commission on the Status and Role of Women and the United Methodist Women
- **Briefing for Youth and Young Adult Delegates** – sponsored by the Division on Ministries with Young People of the General Board of Discipleship
- **A Briefing for Delegates of Color and Allies** – sponsored by the General Commission on Religion and Race

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**A WORD ABOUT SCHEDULES**

Because of the fluid nature of General Conference, it is impossible to tell exactly when delegates will discuss a particular issue. Even when an item is scheduled, it can be delayed if other issues have taken more time than expected. Items can also be added at the last minute if more time is available than expected.

A committee meets each night to plan the agenda for the next day. This proposed agenda appears in the early-morning Daily Christian Advocate. Even then, there is no guarantee that the schedule will be followed. Occasionally, the delegates schedule an order of the day to discuss a particular subject in plenary sessions.

Bishop Marisa de Freitas Ferreira (right) of the Methodist Church of Brazil prays for Bishop Adonias Pereira do Lago, also of Brazil, during evening worship at the 2012 United Methodist General Conference in Tampa, Fla. A UMNS photo by Mike DuBose.