



Baltimore-Washington Conference

The United Methodist Church

Conference Board of Laity

The purpose of the Conference Board of Laity:

- a) To foster an awareness of the role of the laity both within the local congregation and through their ministries in the home, workplace, community, and world in achieving the mission of the Church; to develop and promote programs to cultivate an adequate understanding of the theological and biblical basis for lay life and work among the members of the churches of the annual conference.
- b) To develop and promote stewardship of time, talent, and possessions within the annual conference in cooperation with the conference council on ministries or other appropriate conference bodies.
- c) To provide for the training of lay members of annual conference.
- d) To provide support and direction for the ministry of the laity on the local, district, and annual conference levels and to promote the observance of Laity Sunday.
- e) To provide organization, direction, and support for the development of local church leaders.

Current Goals:

- Empower Laity to be successful Servant Leaders in their Districts and local Churches,
- Empowerment is derived from support for our shared mission, professional development opportunities, and collegial meetings of DLLs,
- Realize the Vitality of the DLL's District and Churches within their Districts by following, and working with, the leadership of our BWC Vitality Specialists and Rev. Bill Brown.

Board of Laity typical meetings:

- 4-5 times a year
- Once in person at the Mission Center 6:30 - 8:30 pm
- the rest on Zoom 6:00 - 7:00 pm

What does serving on the board involve? What responsibilities and activities will members carry out?

- Member of Annual Conference
- Member of Conference Board of Laity
- Serve on DCOM
- Serve on Committee on District Superintendency



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Duties Include:

- Work with District Superintendent as ***partners in ministry***
- Listen to and work with laity and clergy in the district
- Study and attend training meetings related to the position
- Participate in budget and planning activities to ensure lay activities are supported
- Promote local churches participation in Laity Sunday celebrations
- Provide for training for local church Lay Servants by developing and sharing information about Conference and Jurisdictional training
- Act as a liaison between churches, other Districts, and the Conference
- Connect with Conference Lay Leader by attending required meetings
- Sharing relevant District information and generally keeping open and effective channels of communication

How will you communicate with members?

Basecamp and e-mail

Ideal gifts and graces, capabilities, skills, or interests potential applicants should possess?

- Interpersonal skills: seeing all the people, respecting all the people, and being able to work with folks who have a wide range of life experiences
- Communication skills: Listening to others, speaking clearly and lovingly, written skills for effective email or text communications
- Ability to think on our feet, as situations may require
- An understanding that Change in our Churches will be beneficial and necessary and will enhance the role of our Churches in our Faith and the larger Community