

2020 Charge Conference Guidelines

Because of the uncertainty of the COVID-19 impact into the Fall, Bishop Mark J. Webb and the Upper New York Conference Cabinet recommend that **individual Charge Conferences*** be scheduled this year. District Superintendent Suzanne Block and other Elders in the Cornerstone District will preside at the Charge Conferences. The current plan is to hold individual Charge Conferences in person; please keep in mind that in-person may be moved to virtual gatherings if the realities of the pandemic in our state and Annual Conference changes.

For this Fall season Charge Conference will operate in a simplified, shortened format; the plan is to fulfill the most basic of responsibilities. Action that must be completed in a Charge Conference are:

Form 1 2020 Clergy Compensation Form (1a. Housing Exclusion Resolution and 1b. ARP form do not need to be passed by Charge Conference). If an elder other than the District Superintendent is presiding the chair of Finance or SPPRC may lead the conversation on pastoral compensation.

Form 2 Trustee Election. Because of COVID-19 restrictions, normal in-person requirements for the Charge Conference and voting by written individual ballot is suspended for purposes of this meeting. The person serving as secretary will record the vote (indicated by voice or raised hand) and include in the minutes.

Form 2a Lay Leadership Report. This is the report of the Nominating Committee. The following positions must be included in the report: Chair of the Church Board or Council, the Lay Leadership Committee, SPPRC Committee (chair and members), Finance Committee (chair and new members), Financial Secretary and Church Treasurer (if not paid employees), Lay Leader, Lay Member(s) of Annual Conference

Form 8 Approval of the 2019 Audit and 2019 Charge Conference Minutes

Forms 4 & 5 Approval of Certified Lay Servants and Certified Lay Speakers

In this current COVID-19 season, especially if it is in person, it's recommended that we limit the time meeting together. The same holds true for online. The expectation is that next year will offer more opportunity to spend more time in worship, message and in the relational aspects of a Charge Conference.

*Only members of the local church's Administrative Board/Council attend a Charge Conference; all members of the local church are welcome to attend a Church Conference.