

Frequently Asked Questions about the Annual Meeting of the Minnesota Conference United Church of Christ

Who can be a delegate to the Annual Meeting?

Article IV – Membership of the By-Laws of the Conference defines who can be a delegate. It reads:

The voting membership of the Conference shall consist of

- Local Church Members of the Conference may cast the number of votes provided for in the paragraph below, which votes shall be cast through their respective lay delegates and lay youth and/or young adult delegates;
- Authorized Ministers Members of the Conference may each cast one vote on their own behalf;
- Health and welfare institution members of the Conference may each cast one vote through a delegate who must be appointed by that institution's Board of Directors, be a member of that institution's Board of Directors, and be a member of a Local Church,
- Ministers with Dual Standing Members of the Conference may each cast one vote on their own behalf,
- Members of the Board who are not Authorized Ministers or Ministers with Dual Standing may each cast one vote on their own behalf.

How many lay delegates can a church send?

Each Local Church shall be entitled to select up to the number of lay delegates prescribed through the following table:

<u>Membership</u>	<u>Number of Lay Delegates</u>	<u>Youth/Young Adult Delegates (age 13-29)</u>
0 - 199	2	1
200 - 399	3	1
400 - 599	4	1
600 - 799	5	1
800 and above	6	1

All congregations are entitled to one Youth/Young Adult Delegate age 13-29.

How do you determine the costs for the annual meeting?

The Annual Meeting Planning Work Group (AMPWG) works to keep costs as low as possible. The virtual nature of our Annual Meeting in 2021 has greatly reduced our costs, but we still have expenses related to speaker fees, technology, technology support personnel, mailings and postage, and other miscellaneous expenses related to worship and programming.

I would like to attend, but am not a delegate. Can my registration fee be waived?

Visitors are always welcome at the Annual Meeting. However, we still incur costs for visitors. Therefore we will need to charge registration fees.

Can my registration fee be waived as a delegate?

In rare circumstances only the registration fee can be waived for retired clergy who are not attending as delegates from a church or for Members in Discernment. Please email Rev. Shari Prestemon at the Conference Office (sharip@uccmn.org) if you are requesting a waiver as retired clergy or a Member in Discernment. In most circumstances, local congregations pay the registration fees for their delegates, including their pastor.

On-line registration, payment by credit card or check

Log onto the Conference web site (www.uccmn.org), look for the Annual Meeting information and follow the directions. Payment may be made by credit card (VISA or MasterCard), through a bank account withdrawal, or by mailing a check to the Conference Office. We do not have the ability to take a credit card payment over the phone.