

Lay Equalization Task Force Seeks Input

The Lay Equalization Task Force was appointed by Bishop Kieseey to develop a proposal to achieve equalization of lay members and clergy members at Annual Conference. This proposal will be presented at the 2011 Annual Conference.

The task force is considering two proposed changes to section 7.11.c of *The Standing Rules of the Dakota Conference*, page 228. Expenses for the equalization members would be the responsibility of the local charge in both proposals.

One proposal would be to have the lay members needed for equalization elected from the local churches/ charges with a larger membership. The charges with over 900 members would get 5 additional lay members, between 700 and 899 would get 4 additional, between 500 and 699 would get 3 additional, between 300 and 499 would get 2 additional. Those fewer than 300 and in descending order would get one additional lay member until equalization of members is reached.

Another proposal would be to have the total lay membership of the Dakotas Annual Conference (38,602) divided by the number of charges (172) to get an average membership per charge. This number (224) would then be divided into the membership of the churches. Examples of this would be:

Sioux Falls 1 st	1229 members ÷ 224 = 5.48 or 5 members
Mitchell 1 st	829 members ÷ 224 = 3.71 or 4 members
Pierre 1 st	708 members ÷ 224 = 3.16 or 3 members
Williston	336 members ÷ 224 = 1.51 or 2 members

The election of equalization members will no longer happen by districts and ministry teams with both of these proposals.

The committee is open to other ideas and will entertain comments until Feb. 14, 2011. Please send them to the Dakotas Conference Office - P. O. Box 460, Mitchell, SD 7301, or fax them to 605-996-1766, or e-mail them to Greg Kroger at greg.kroger@dakotasumc.org

Lay Equalization Task Force Seeks Input

The Lay Equalization Task Force was appointed by Bishop Kieseey to develop a proposal to achieve equalization of lay members and clergy members at Annual Conference. This proposal will be presented at the 2011 Annual Conference.

The task force is considering two proposed changes to section 7.11.c of *The Standing Rules of the Dakota Conference*, page 228. Expenses for the equalization members would be the responsibility of the local charge in both proposals.

One proposal would be to have the lay members needed for equalization elected from the local churches/ charges with a larger membership. The charges with over 900 members would get 5 additional lay members, between 700 and 899 would get 4 additional, between 500 and 699 would get 3 additional, between 300 and 499 would get 2 additional. Those fewer than 300 and in descending order would get one additional lay member until equalization of members is reached.

Another proposal would be to have the total lay membership of the Dakotas Annual Conference (38,602) divided by the number of charges (172) to get an average membership per charge. This number (224) would then be divided into the membership of the churches. Examples of this would be:

Sioux Falls 1 st	1229 members ÷ 224 = 5.48 or 5 members
Mitchell 1 st	829 members ÷ 224 = 3.71 or 4 members
Pierre 1 st	708 members ÷ 224 = 3.16 or 3 members
Williston	336 members ÷ 224 = 1.51 or 2 members

The election of equalization members will no longer happen by districts and ministry teams with both of these proposals.

The committee is open to other ideas and will entertain comments until Feb. 14, 2011. Please send them to the Dakotas Conference Office - P. O. Box 460, Mitchell, SD 7301, or fax them to 605-996-1766, or e-mail them to Greg Kroger at greg.kroger@dakotasumc.org

Annual Conference Resolutions and General Conference Petitions

The Dakotas Annual Conference Committee on Resolutions and Petitions is now accepting submissions for conference resolutions and General Conference petitions for the 2011 Dakotas Annual Conference session. The deadline to submit these items for consideration by the conference is March 1, 2011.

The committee is accepting two forms of action requests: (1) resolutions for action by the Dakotas Annual Conference; and (2) petitions that request the Dakotas Annual Conference support or author a petition to the General Conference. In the case of each resolution or General Conference petition, the Committee on Resolutions and Petitions will offer the Annual Conference its counsel of "Pass" or "Don't Pass." The Conference will then proceed to consider and act on each resolution or petition.

The Book of Discipline, paragraph 507 outlines the petition process and guidelines that must be followed. Further instructions on submitting petitions to General Conference can be found at www.umc.org/gc2012.



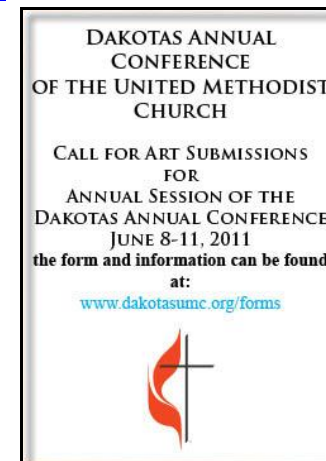
Check out all the 2011 Annual Conference information at www.dakotasumc.org/2011annualconference

Annual Conference Resolutions and General Conference Petitions

The Dakotas Annual Conference Committee on Resolutions and Petitions is now accepting submissions for conference resolutions and General Conference petitions for the 2011 Dakotas Annual Conference session. The deadline to submit these items for consideration by the conference is March 1, 2011.

The committee is accepting two forms of action requests: (1) resolutions for action by the Dakotas Annual Conference; and (2) petitions that request the Dakotas Annual Conference support or author a petition to the General Conference. In the case of each resolution or General Conference petition, the Committee on Resolutions and Petitions will offer the Annual Conference its counsel of "Pass" or "Don't Pass." The Conference will then proceed to consider and act on each resolution or petition.

The Book of Discipline, paragraph 507 outlines the petition process and guidelines that must be followed. Further instructions on submitting petitions to General Conference can be found at www.umc.org/gc2012.



Check out all the 2011 Annual Conference information at www.dakotasumc.org/2011annualconference