

2019

EAST OHIO
ANNUAL CONFERENCE

CLERGY VOTER
GUIDE

**50th SESSION OF THE
EAST OHIO ANNUAL CONFERENCE
LAKESIDE, OHIO
June 10-13, 2019**

PROVISIONS FOR CLERGY ELECTIONS

In the midst of the 2003 General and Jurisdictional Conference Elections, a motion was made by Stan Rittgers that a review be made by the Agenda, Rules, and Administrative Process Committee to streamline the procedures used for nominating, voting and reporting on the elections of representatives to General and Jurisdictional Conferences and that recommendations be brought to the 2004 Annual Conference for approval (2003 East Ohio Conference Journal, p. 4-24). The motion carried.

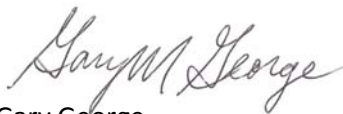
The 2005 Annual Conference adopted the rule changes recommended by ARAP in response to the Rittgers motion. These rule changes can be found in Section 8 (Rules of the East Ohio Annual Conference) of the 2018 Conference Journal under ¶7 D. **Additional Provisions for Clergy Elections.**

In effect, these rules provide a self nomination process for clergy. The rationale for the rule change is this: The self-nominating process for clergy enables voters to know who the interested clergy are, rather than “flying blind” from a listing of all clergy. Short clergy biographies are offered in this Clergy Voter Guide to increase the information available for reasoned voting decisions.

Please note: as required by *The Book of Discipline* (¶ 35 Article IV), all clergy in full connection will be eligible to receive votes and will be assigned a voting number at Annual Conference. Only those who returned the nominating form by January 31, 2019, are included in the 2019 Clergy Voter Guide.

We hope this 2019 Clergy Voter Guide will be of help in the 2020 General and Jurisdictional Conference Elections.

In Christ’s Service,


Gary George
Administrative Assistant to the Bishop


Cynthia Patterson
Conference Secretary

CARRIE ANTCHAK

NC: UMC Berea

Voting Number **119**



Rev. Antczak, a Deacon serving East Ohio, graduated from Ohio Wesleyan University focusing on theology, gender studies, and sociology. She is a graduate of MTSO, earning a Masters of Divinity, specializing in Mission and Evangelism. She currently serves The UMC of Berea, focusing her ministry on faith formation and outreach. She previously served Bay and Mayfield UMC. She served the conference committees of Pastoral Care, Church and Society, and is currently the chair of Spiritual Formation. Her passion is sharing the story of God, and helping all people to find themselves in the continuing story of God's grace and love.

ARMANDO ARELLANO

NC: Euclid East Shore UMC

Voting Number **088**



I served on different capacities and positions on the District, Annual Conference, Jurisdictional, and the General church. I served on the Board of Ordained Ministry, Commission on Religion and Race, and currently serving as the vice-chairperson of the NCJ Commission on Religion and Race. I was honored to be one of the delegates to the 2008 NCJ Jurisdictional Conference, 2012, 2016 General Conference, and the 2019 Special Called General Conference.

Considering our differences in many spectrums, it is important to focus faithfully on pursuing our mission of making disciples of Jesus Christ. Thank you for your trust, prayers, and support.

ABBY AUMAN

MV: District Superintendent UMC

Voting Number **473**



Believes church's future is sharing timeless gospel in new ways and becoming beloved communities of people who embody the radical love of Jesus locally for all people by living transformed lives of peace and justice.

Served small, medium, large churches in rural and suburban settings as solo, lead, associate pastor. Raised on farm/small business, attended Wesley Seminary in DC. Able to work well with diverse people who hold differing views and different generations.

Current Boards: UM Higher Education Foundation, Copeland Oaks. Previous Boards: Board of Ministry (Candidacy Summit Director), UM Community Center, Pass It On Clothing Closet, school Superintendent's Roundtable.

DOUGLAS BEGGS

TW: Beechwood, Peace UMCs

Voting Number **537**



I have served in the communities of Galion, Butler, Deerfield, Willard, Alliance, and Louisville as an elder within East Ohio.

I have served the district level on Strategy and Mission teams. I have at the conference level served on the Young Adults, Congregational Vitality and Hispanic Task Force teams.

I believe the key issue facing our church is understanding the Sovereignty of God. Allowing God to be sovereign over us is paramount.

My passion is the transformational journey Christ has in store for us. A journey in becoming Christ-centered, biblically-anchored world changers.

JACQUELINE BOYER

NC: Westlake UMC

Voting Number **552**



I am an ordained elder currently serving as the Campus Pastor at Westlake UMC, Simpson Metro West. A graduate of Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary and an East Ohio native, I am passionate about the role the UMC can play in creating community and connection for people of all kinds – both at home and around the world. The UMC connection can be a force of transformation as it creates vital communities that welcome all people while sharing the love of Christ. God's love invites to be our authentic selves, and the world can be transformed when God's people are their truest selves.

KELLY BROWN

TW: Crosspoint UMC

Voting Number **540**



Lifelong Methodist. Elected jurisdictional reserve delegate in 2016. Currently serving as the Director of Congregational Vitality for the East Ohio Conference. In this role, I lead and participate in educational events relating to church vitality and connect with many people throughout the conference and country leading new and existing ministries that bring about church vitality. These ministries help us make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. It is my hope that as we move forward we would focus more intently on our shared mission so people may experience God's grace and change the world.

MOLLIE BROWN

NC: Westlake UMC

Voting Number **703**



Senior Pastor of Westlake UMC, a multi-campus church
Current Committees: Chair North Coast District Finance, member District Strategic Funding

Member, Board of Directors OhioGuidestone
Second career clergy having served as president of companies/subsidiaries, both public and privately held, prior to answering call to ministry

I am an advocate for consensus building. I believe that our Wesleyan theology uniquely prepares us for the challenge of being relevant in a polarized world. Our focus on piety and compassion opens us to a middle ground where the Holy Spirit can work in and through us to make and mature disciples of Jesus Christ.

SUSAN BROWN

TW: First New Philadelphia UMC

Voting Number **181**



A life-long UM, called to ministry through summer camp and CCYM. Guiding scriptures for ministry are Great Commission and Great Commandment. Local church focus of accountable discipleship and inclusive evangelism lived out in service to the community. Concerned about the care and nurture of clergy that their experience is meaningful, purposeful and fruitful. Clergy formation is focus of my role on Board of Ministry.

Participant/presenter in leadership training opportunities on topics including discipleship, clergy ethics, social justice, and church administration, among others. Served variety of parish sizes and contexts and conference staff positions. May God bless the UMC.

DAN BRYANT

NC: Lakewood UMC

Voting Number **091**



Lead Pastor, Lakewood UMC (2017-Present); MV District Superintendent (2009-17), 2016 and 2012 GC Delegate; Director GBGM: former chair Church and Society Committee; Racial Harassment Task Force;. Key Issue facing denomination is “relevance” in the midst of a contentious world that’s divisive, fractured, adversarial and fear-filled. Jesus Christ’s love is relevant and he exemplifies what we need in our local church and beyond our walls. My passion/vision is sharing his love to those both within/beyond the walls. My walk as a disciple of Jesus is to share my authenticity, compassion, love and trust in God’s grace

to others.

ANDREW CALL

NC: Church Of The Saviour UMC

Voting Number **565**



A lifelong UM and committed disciple of Jesus, I serve an exciting and challenging ministry as lead pastor at Church of the Saviour. I have served the EOC faithfully in conference leadership and delegations in 2012 and 2016. I believe our best days are ahead of us if we are alert to what God is calling forth. Our true nature will not be revealed by choosing sides, but by understanding and embracing the wideness of our diversity as a global church. The world needs our witness for Christ now more than ever. That is and should always be our priority.

EDWARD FASHBAUGH

TR: Crossroads UMC

Voting Number **484**



Pastor Crossroads UMC (15 years) where I guided a merger and survived! Former Conference Staff, General/Jurisdictional Delegate and EOC Board of Ministry. Current EOC CORR, Crisis Response Team, TW District BOM, and Urban Strategy Team. Author Creating an Authentic Youth Ministry (Discipleship Resources, 2005).

Key issue for UMC is relearning how to design and implement strategic outreach missionally/evangelistically/socially that moves us from maintenance to vital spirituality. A vital spirituality that leads to a multi-generational multi-cultural expression of heaven on earth; a place where disciples for Jesus are made and prayerfully compassionately and boldly work to transform the world around them.

GARY GEORGE

TW: Assistant To The Bishop UMC

Voting Number **486**



Following a season of prayer and personal discernment and in light of our mission and in the midst of this season in the life of our church, I offer myself for your consideration as a clergy delegate. I sense my extensive record of trusted leadership and experience at every point of our connection as well as my passionate commitment to faithfully serve Christ, others, and the church can be invaluable in serving in this particular time in the life our local churches, annual conference and The United Methodist Church.

JONATHAN GEORGE

TW: Dueber UMC

Voting Number **162**



I have pastored churches in multiple contexts within East Ohio. I served at Rogers UMC and Trinity UMC in New Springfield, Canal Fulton UMC and currently Dueber UMC. I have also served in leadership as the Co-coordinator of the Tuscarawas District Youth and presently function as part of the Tuscarawas Urban Pastors Team.

Key issues which face the United Methodist Church are a need for spiritual renewal and openness to make large changes in the structure of our denomination. My passion for the United Methodist Church lies in hearing and being obedient to the calling of the Holy Spirit.

MICHAEL GRANT

CN: Shreve UMC

Voting Number **131**

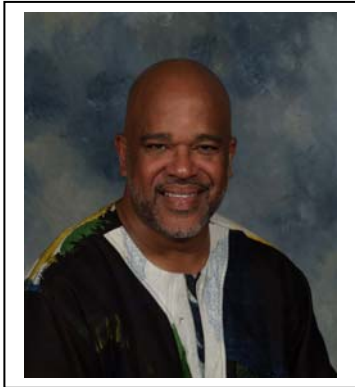


I served for 8 years on the Board of Camps, Secretary for 4 years. I served for 8 years on Evangelism/Congregational Vitality. I served for 10 years on the MV DCOM, 5 years as Chair. I serve on the BOM as Enlistment Chair. I helped to bring HCI to East Ohio, serving on many teams. I have been a part of WR Emmaus and NEO Chrysalis for 20 years, serving on many teams. I served on the EO Delegations in 2008, 2012, 2016, and 2019. I have been serving in East Ohio for 28 years.

GARY HENDERSON

UMCOM: Director, Global Health Initiative UMC

Voting Number **572**



Respected leader with more than 30 years of pastoral experience. Served as Secretary of the Annual Conference – Conference Board of Ministry – Annual Conference re-structure committees - Chairperson Pastors Association, Chairperson of Jurisdictional Elections Committee. Delegate to four General Conferences. Taught in Schools of Christian Mission. A global citizen with experience in more than 85 countries. Raised 77 million dollars for Imagine No Malaria as Executive Director. Chief Relationship Officer – Global Partnerships and am a monastic at heart. The achievement of unity in the midst of diversity is a key issue close

to my heart and the plight of the poor.

MATTHEW LAFERTY

Missionary: Vienna, Austria UMC

Voting Number **030**



I am a United Methodist missionary serving in multicultural ministry in Europe. I bring experience serving as a previous 2004 and 2008 GC delegate representing East Ohio. I have served at all levels including the Study Committee on the Worldwide Nature of the Church, General Commission on Archives and History, and Committee on Faith and Order. I know our conference well as a pastor formed, trained, and sent out by East Ohio. My ministry in our global church has helped me develop a deep understanding of the tension between theological and cultural diversity, unity, and mission.

DAVID MACDONALD

Chaplain: Ohio Northern University UMC

Voting Number **209**



Serve as chaplain at ONU (a UM-related university); served as a pastor at Niles: First, Marshallville-Easton Charge, Boundary-Denmark Charge; Served British Methodist Church for two years after seminary. Former chair of EOC Urban Ministry committee; serve as chair of Board of Higher Ed. Served as a Page at GC in 2008, 2016, 2019. The church is at a crucial time when we need to clarify our mission, empower local churches, and reimagine connectionalism for the 21st century. I have a passion for youth and young adults, and encouraging new leaders to blaze new paths in the world for Jesus Christ.

JONATHAN PRIEBE

CN: First Cuyahoga Falls UMC

Voting Number **588**



BOM Elders Registrar, Mid-Ohio DCOM Registrar 2015 – 2018, NCJ UMVIM Board 2016-2018

The primary issue facing our denomination is also faced in our local churches, the communities we serve, and our daily lives as Christ-followers: in our anxious and uncertain world, how can the Church be the place that draws people together, and to God, rather than driving them apart.

My vision for the church is that as we live out the generous, life-giving, welcoming, and transforming love of Christ, people divided along political, social, and economic lines will be united before God, through Christ, and living with Christ.

CLINTON QUILLEN

OV: Wintersville UMC

Voting Number **442**



Leadership experience: Wintersville UMC pastor since 2000, received over 400 new members, in midst of large Grow the Good ministry campaign to build community Center for Hope; youth pastor, small church pastor; instructor at Local Pastor Licensing School since 2005; Conference - BOM, Local Pastors & Associate Members registrar, Leadership Committee; Former chairperson - Urban Mission personnel comm., EOEF; former - Dean CYF church camp, vice-pres., pres. board Aim Women's Center; D. Min. in Apologetics dissertation, "Speaking the Truth in Love" examining controversial issues.

UMC key issue: Hebrews 12:1-3. Passion/vision for church: 2 biblical prayers - Ephesians 3:16-21, Colossians 1:3-14.

DAVID RITTGERS

CN: Orrville Trinity & Marshallville UMCs

Voting Number **650**



The denomination's key issue is our willingness to be truly missional/sending in nature, rather than remaining comfortable as an attractional church, expecting people to come to us. My hope for the UMC, no matter the special General Conference outcome, is that we recommit ourselves to the primary mission of making disciples of Jesus, being adaptive enough to accomplish it in new ways as we enter uncharted territory. My leadership experiences in the church and various community groups have prepared me to be a bridge-builder who thrives in uncertain times, such as leading a successful school levy campaign during

fiscal emergency.

DARLENE ROBINSON

FL: Willard First UMC

Voting Number **755**



I was ordained Elder in 2004. I have served as pastor at the following churches of which the majority were 2 point charges: Lorain - Vincent, Emmanuel, Lighthouse (6 months after a merger), Cove - Lakewood, Fairview Grace - Fairview Park, Christ and Simpson in Cleveland. Currently serving at Willard First. Served on DCOM's, the Board of Ministry and other district and conference committees.

The key issue facing our denomination is now of course "waiting" for the vote next month and its' results. Passion for the church:

Making disciples for Jesus Christ and not becoming a "dead sect".

BENITA ROLLINS

TW: District Superintendent UMC

Voting Number **757**



District, Community Boards, Conference and General Church Task Groups/Commissions, Trained consultant-Bill Easum SBC-21; UMW Mission U; Director of Church Relations Alumni MTSO and District Superintendent, Delegate to Jurisdictional Conference-1988-2016, first Reserve Delegate 1992, delegate to General Conference 1996.

Issues facing the church: Globalization of the church and its impact on structures and leadership development/deployment.

How to live into the difference God is calling us in the next

chapter of our mission and ministry with youth, more diverse people, and with the poor and marginalized Vision: To equip and inspire transformation that makes and matures disciples of Jesus Christ.

ANDREW SCOTT

NC: Hope UMC

Voting Number **363**



I serve on the Board of Ministry, the Commission on Religion and Race, and the District Committee on Ministry. One of the biggest issues I see our denomination faces is the challenge of increasing polarization without conversation. Our task should always be to engage in dialogue with one another about how and where we feel God's Spirit leading. My passion for this church started when I was in middle school and continues to this day. My vision is for a church that is representative of all persons that our witness may be even more powerful to the whole world.

EDNA STAHL

MO: Shelby Trinity UMC

Voting Number **313**



Ordained Deacon 1992, Elder in the East Ohio Conference, Lakeside, Ohio 1995. Pastor: Shelby: Trinity UMC 2010 to present.

Doctorate in Theology from International Bible University, Orlando, Fl. June 2013. Chaplain: Ohio Health Hospital 2010-present. Shelby Christian Outreach Board. Mid-Ohio District (dCOM) Chair 2013 to present.

Key issue facing out church is SIN in all forms and types, in all places to all people. Passion or vision for the Church create opportunities for persons to find and accept Jesus. Church must thinking outside the box, go where the people are that all might know Jesus Christ.

CARA STULTZ COSTELLO

TW: North Canton Faith UMC

Voting Number **236**



Serving kin-dom, world and UMC for 18 years:

- 2 Long-term appointments
- Missionary: US2, UMVIM – Haiti/Liberia
- Member: Matthew 25 (founding) and Medina Family First Coalition; inaugural classes Young Clergy Network and First Parish Project; Pastoral Care and Counseling Commission
- Chairperson: Firelands DCoM; Board of Ministry; Conference Worship Committee
- General Conference observer since 2000; Jurisdictional Conference alternate 2016

- Adjunct professor MTSO – “UM Polity: General Conference 2019”

I know that COVENANT in CONNEXION, a missional element of historic Wesleyan identity, will move us across boundaries of culture and creed for the redemption of all God’s children.

STEVEN STULTZ COSTELLO

TW: North Canton Faith UMC

Voting Number **284**



Leadership: Serving Conference and District ministries since 2003. Leading resolutions at Annual Conference since 2012.

Key Issue: Unity in diversity

Vision/Passion/Prayer: Come Holy Spirit, come. Bind us together. Use us to be a light to the nations revealing your power to humble and transcend divisions. Give us tongues of fire with the ability to hear and understand one another even in our differences. Let the UMC show the world what Love can do. Enable us to set aside our agendas and positions so that we can repent and see the new

creation that only you can bring into being.

HARLEY WHEELER

TW: Minerva UMC

Voting Number **686**



In my 29th year of ministry, I am helping my church to reach out to chronically poor and marginalized people in our community. My passions are Preaching, Bible Study, Food-Insecurity, Community Development, Ecumenism and Pastoral Care. Our denomination faces a challenge to remain Biblically faithful and orthodoxed in the Wesleyan tradition. We have trouble speaking to and understanding one another when we debate about how we are to live out our faith, and I feel we must talk reasonably and constructively over the key issues of same-gender marriage and abortion. Above all, we must remain faithful to Christ.

LU ANN YOUNGMAN

TW: Retired, Winfield UMC

Voting Number **771**



This year is my 30th year of ministry, and I am currently serving the Winfield UMC. I serve on the Conference BOM, Vital Congregations, and I am in training as a church and pastor coach/consultant. I teach the Rule of Christ. I also serve on the District Strategy Committee. During my ministry these past thirty years, I sent four laity into ministry.

The key issue in our church is "The Way Forward." We are struggling with living out our denomination title as the "United" Methodist Church. I join Jesus' passion for the church in John

17:20-23.