# ELECTION OF ONE LAY DELEGATE TO FULFILL A VACANCY FOR THE POSTPONED 2020 GENERAL AND NORTHEASTERN JURISDICTIONAL CONFERENCES

The West Virginia Conference is eligible to have three lay and three clergy delegates to the 2020 General Conference (to be held April 23 – May 3, 2024). These persons, plus an additional three lay and three clergy delegates, will serve at the Northeastern Jurisdictional Conference to be held July 9 - 12, 2024, in Western Pennsylvania.

Three of the lay delegates are unable to serve for various reasons: Erin Sears is now a clergy member of the conference and thus is ineligible to serve as a lay delegate; Royce Lyden and Bree Moll were unable to continue serving due to changing life circumstances. The Judicial Council of The United Methodist Church ruled that elections could be held to fill vacant spots in the delegation. Only lay members will vote for this delegate.

Following our conference rules, the nominations were made by members of the 2022 Annual Conference session in April and early May 2023. Additional nominations may be made by members of the 2023 Annual Conference from the floor at the designated time. Balloting will be done by electronic voting machines and instructions will be given.

On the following pages you will find information about the lay nominees for this supplemental spot. Data Information for each person nominated was requested. Responses were voluntary. Inclusion of a picture was requested but not mandatory. The information provided is to help in your discernment process.

The following people were nominated in advance and had the opportunity to complete a date sheet. Those with an \* returned the data sheet. Two additional people, Barb Hale and Caitlin Ware, were nominated but declined the nomination.

These numbers will be used in the electronic voting by lay members of the 2023 Annual Conference.

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## **Donna Galloway**

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Hopewell Union Potomac Highlands District

Please share your local church involvement and indicate if this is previous or current.:

Present- Lay Leader, Weekly Worship Leader, Women's Group, PPR member, VBS teacher, Worship Committee, Lay Member at Annual Conference Past-Weekly Worship Leader, Women's Group, PPR member, VBS teacher, Worship Committee, Lay Member at Annual Conference, Youth group leader, Sunday School teacher,



Please share cooperative parish and/or district involvement and if this is previous or current:

Present- District Parish Representative, Youth Retreat Counselor/Assistant

Please share annual conference involvement and indicate current or previous:

2022- Lay Member to Annual Conference. 2023- Lay Member to Annual Conference

Please share Civic and Community involvement and indicate current or previous:

Present- Help with Food Pantry, Community VBS, Multiple Sclerosis Support Group leader, MS Walk participant, MS Government Relations Chair (WV), Help with Good Neighbors Day parade, Lions Club Christmas parade/community event, Christmas Caroling to shut-in/delivered cookie plates. Past- School PTA/ Boosters, 4H Parent, 4H Camp Staff Support, Multiple Sclerosis Support Group leader, MS Walk participant, MS Government Relations Chair (WV), Help with Good Neighbors Day parade, Lions Club Christmas parade/community event, Christmas Caroling to shut-in/delivered cookie plates.

What do you believe you would contribute as a delegate for the General or Jurisdictional Conferences?

I am a good listener and can appreciate diverse views. I am a spirit led woman who will vote my beliefs as to what God is calling me to and at the same time am a team player. I work well with other people. I love the UMC and want the best for its continued growth and missions. I am open to different perspectives and like to learn new things. I am not only bringing local church perspective, but also represent my annual conference.

## **Gary Hartsog**

512 N Highland Dr. Beckley, WV 25801 304-890-1802 ghartsog@alphaengineer.com Spouses Name: Ellen Hartsog UM Temple (Beckley) Southern District

#### Please share your local church involvement and indicate if this

is previous or current.: I am currently UM Temple's Lay Leader, Chair of the Audit Team, member of The Place for Kids Leadership Team (Daycare/Preschool) and Leader of a Small Group; Previously, I have helped and been a member of many and various Teams and Committees at UM Temple and when I was a member of other UM Churches in Fairmont, Morgantown and Beckley. Please share cooperative parish and/or district involvement and if this is previous or current: I am currently the Southern District Lay Leader, Chair of the District Lay Ministry Team and member of the Southern District Lead Team. I am a Certified Lay Speaker and have filled pulpits for pastors in the

Southern and other Districts several times each year for several years. I have been active in organizing and leading at District Lay Academies for at least 15 years. I served two years as an Assigned Supply.

#### Please share annual conference involvement and indicate current or previous:

I am currently on the Conference Lay Ministry Team and the District Lay Leader's Team; Previously I have served on Justice and Advocacy and Covenant Council.

#### Please share Civic and Community involvement and indicate current or previous:

I am currently a Director and serve as the Secretary to the Board of Directors of Hope in the Mountains (an outreach group in Southern WV to help people improve their lives and futures thorough education, training and getting to know Christ). I have a long involvement with 4H in Raleigh County and WV. I have started three businesses and provided employment and job training to many in Southern WV over the past 32 years.



#### **Gary Hartsog Continued:**

#### What do you believe you would contribute as a delegate for the General or Jurisdictional Conferences?

I offer to contribute the benefits of my experiences: in the pulpit as a Lay Speaker working with many small churches and their laity; experiences in dealing with people of many different cultures and backgrounds from my travels and work as an engineering consultant both across WV and internationally for the past 32 years; and experiences in working with small groups and church groups to share the love of Christ into the world through Christian Conferencing and personal involvement

## **Angela Jones**

608 South Park Road Charleston, WV 25304 304-444-9869. ajones@wvumc.org
St. Marks, Charleston Nine Rivers District

## Please share your local church involvement and indicate if this is previous or current.:

Current: Choir, Nominations, Edgewood Summit lay speaking

Previous: Altar Guild, United Women in Faith

Please share cooperative parish and/or district involvement and if this is previous or current:

None

#### Please share annual conference involvement and indicate current or previous:

Current: Conference Staff, Commission on Religion and Race, Ethnic Local Church

Concerns

Previous: Conference Trustees, Covenant Council

#### Please share Civic and Community involvement and indicate current or previous:

Current: WV Symphony Board of Directors, Opus Chorale, Charleston Light Opera Guild Orchestra, WV Symphony Chorus, Harmony ReChoired a capella chorus, Kanawha Valley Community Band, Mixed Nuts Quartet, Derick Kirk Foundation (music education scholarships), Relay for Life

Previous: Charleston Metro Band, Charleston Civic Chorus, womanSong Chorale

#### What do you believe you would contribute as a delegate for the General or Jurisdictional Conferences?

I believe that my greatest contribution would be providing a viewpoint outside the status quo - I am under age 50, a female, and a minority. God has blessed me with a very peaceful nature, and I believe that my calming influence could also be an asset. if my staff position has made me moderately more knowledgeable about UMC details than I would have been otherwise, I'm not so deeply entrenched that I would lose sight of the fact that decisions affect people, and God has called us to LOVE people.

### **Kim Matthews**

346 Navajo Trail Huntington, WV 25705 304-342-211 <a href="mailto:kimmatthews@umfwv.org">kimmatthews@umfwv.org</a>

Spouse: Steve Matthews

Johnson Memorial UMC, Huntington Nine Rivers District

Please share your local church involvement and indicate if this is previous or current.: Currently, at my local church, I serve as the Communications Coordinator, a member of the Church Council, a member of Staff Parish Relations Committee, a member of the Finance Committee, and Devotional Ministry Coordinator. My Certified Lay Ministry covenant connects me in ministry to Johnson Memorial UMC, and as part of that, upon request, I teach Sunday School, serve as lector, and preach.

Please share cooperative parish and/or district involvement and if this is previous or current: Currently, I serve as a member of the Nine Rivers District Committee on Ordained Ministry. Previously, I served as Western District Lay Leader.

#### Please share annual conference involvement and indicate current or previous:

I serve as the Annual Conference Director of Lay Servant Ministries and as Annual Conference Associate Lay Leader. I am a member of the Annual Conference Programming Committee and the Annual Conference Lay Ministry Team. I have been a Certified Lay Minister since 2011, and I lead the Conference Certified Lay Ministry Course. As the Vice President of the United Methodist Foundation of West Virginia, I stay connected to the ministries of the West Virginia Annual Conference.





#### **Kim Matthews continued:**

#### Please share Civic and Community involvement and indicate current or previous:

I am currently the Vice President of Charitable Gift Planners of West Virginia. I serve as the website manager for the National Association of United Methodist Foundations. Previously, I served as the Community Lay Director of the Ashland Area Emmaus Association and currently serve as the community's website manager.

#### What do you believe you would contribute as a delegate for the General or Jurisdictional Conferences?

God has called me not only to ministry in the local church but also beyond my local church. In my work with the Foundation and as a volunteer in the Annual Conference, I am blessed to live into that call. I pray I am a disciple of Christ who is open to God's leading. God has equipped me with the spiritual gifts of faith, organization, and service, and all of these would be important as a delegate. I can see the "big picture" and the details that create it. I believe collaboration can be holy.

#### **Allie Sears**

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#### Please share your local church involvement and indicate if

**this is previous or current.:** Lay Member to Annual Conference (current), Church Council (current), Program Council (previous)

Vine and Branches Campus Ministry Leadership Team (previous)

Please share annual conference involvement and indicate current or previous: Youth Ministry Team (current), Conference Communications Team (current), Fall Workshop Staff (previous), Conference Council on Youth Ministry (previous), Radical Discipleship Academy of Appalachia (previous), Youth Observer to Jurisdictional Conference (previous)

Please share Civic and Community involvement and indicate current or previous: P.E.O. (current)



As a young person who has been nurtured by many congregations and connections across the West Virginia Annual Conference, I have developed a deep love for the United Methodist Church. Through my work at the United Methodist Foundation, my knowledge and appreciation for the Church has grown even deeper. I will bring my knowledge and passion for the church to listen and participate in holy conferencing.



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St. Paul's UMC Nitro Nine Rivers District

## Please share your local church involvement and indicate if this is previous or current.:

As a PK (if you know, you know), the UMC has raised me my entire life and I am so grateful for the various church congregations I have been able to be a part of. I currently worship at Wesley UMC in Morgantown and serve the youth of the WV annual conference!

# Please share cooperative parish and/or district involvement and if this is previous or current:

Alongside Bob Cover, we serve the youth and young people of (primarily) the Northern, MonValley, and Potomac Highlands districts. By helping to connect youth and young people to local churches, the conference, and one another, we are able to create those connections and encourage young people.

#### Please share annual conference involvement and indicate current or previous:

I am currently serving as the Co-Conference Youth Coordinator alongside Jake Henley! I serve the northern/central portion of the state without youth/young people outreach, youth event planning/coordinating, and most importantly encouraging youth and young people to be involved and use their voice in the church.





#### **Lauren Shanholtzer Continued:**

#### Please share Civic and Community involvement and indicate current or previous:

I work as a Pediatric ICU RN at Ruby Memorial Children's and serve the children and families of northern WV and the surrounding areas! I love what I do and what I'm able to do within my career. I have a passion for serving children, youth, and young people in anyway I can.

#### What do you believe you would contribute as a delegate for the General or Jurisdictional Conferences?

Having a young person on the delegation brings in a different perspective and voice to be heard. It's important to me personally to have a younger voice and vote included within the church and conference in order to be able to hear from all people possible.

#### **Julie Tennant**

1619 Chestnut Street. Kenova, WV 25530 304-641-5735 <u>juliectennant@gmail.com</u>

Spouse: Andrew Tennant

Kenova UMC Nine Rivers District

#### Please share your local church involvement and indicate if this is previous or

current.: Sunday School Substitute Teacher (2023)

Children's Ministry Assistant (2012-present)

Vacation Bible School volunteer (2012-present)

Faith Hands Community Breakfast and Necessity Closet volunteer (2019-2022)

# Please share cooperative parish and/or district involvement and if this is previous or current:

Minister's Mates (2012-present)

Participated in Imagine No Malaria Campaign (2013)

#### Please share annual conference involvement and indicate current or previous:

Rules Committee Member (2013-2021)

Core Leadership Team Member (2021-present)

#### Please share Civic and Community involvement and indicate current or

previous: CK Alumni/Community Band member (2023)

Homeschool Teacher and Co-Op Participant (2017-present)

#### What do you believe you would contribute as a delegate for the General or Jurisdictional Conferences?

I've spent my entire life in the UMC, from youth to clergy spouse to participation in district and conference groups and committees. These experiences have been invaluable, have helped me understand the legislative process of the UMC, and have inspired me to ask informed questions about the future of the church.

