

Dixie Brewster

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Church: Milton UMC

District: Wichita West

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Gender: Female

Ethnicity: Caucasian

Age range: 53

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Delegate # **104**

What has been your involvement in The United Methodist Church (include district, conference, and general agency/board involvement)?

Served eight years as Kansas West Conference Lay Leader 2000-08

South Central Jurisdictional Delegate 2000 (ALT), 2004, 2008, 2012, 2016 & 2019

General Conference Delegate 2004, 2008, 2012, 2016 & 2019

South Central Jurisdiction Episcopal Committee & Inter-Jurisdictional Committee Member, Kansas/Nebraska Transition Team, Camp Horizon board, conference Nominations Committee chair, Episcopacy Committee, Episcopal Residence Committee chair and Wichita West District Nominations Committee.

Currently Serving:

Local church UMW president, lay leader/lay member to annual conference, worship and pastor-parish relations chair, Wichita West District UMW president and Great Plains Conference Sessions Planning Team.

Why would you like to be considered for election as a delegate?

I want to serve God and the people of the Great Plains Conference. I hope to have the opportunity to help make informed decisions, at a controversial time, that will be honoring to God and benefit the denomination. I want to help shape the changes that will be coming in 2020 in a way that will further our mission and witness across the globe.

What unique skills, knowledge, and /or gifts would you bring to the delegation?

I enjoy working with people, and have experience as a General Conference delegate. I am the only voting delegate at the 2019 General Conference that voiced support for the Traditional Plan, but I value our relationships as an entire delegation! No matter what challenges come before us, or what the denomination's future may hold, I feel the need for a balanced delegation that represents our Great Plains Conference and every local church member.

In light of the 2019 special session of General Conference, how do you believe the church is called to move forward in fulfilling its mission?

I believe in the power of a connectional system like the UMC. I also believe we are at a time where the UMC is going to make changes that will divide us. I have never wanted division, but we are too consumed with the issues of human sexuality. We must move forward so that reaching others for Christ, around the world, is our main focus! How this will look after 2020 is yet to be seen, but I would be honored to work toward a better tomorrow in the eyes of God and in the United Methodist Church.

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What do you believe are the challenges and opportunities facing The United Methodist Church today?

Outreaching ministries and servant leadership are vital components of the church. Prayer, Bible study and innovative worship will benefit our denomination greatly. Utilizing creative ways to involve and inspire youth will further Christ's church. Encouraging individuals to listen for God's call into ministry, and quality training for clergy and lay are important factors of successful ministry. With laity and clergy working together to welcome and invite individuals to Christ, passionate worship, and positive attitudes in ministry, we can be a part of transforming lives in the United Methodist Church around the world!