

Scott Brewer

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Gender: Male

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Delegate # 103

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

- + Currently serve as treasurer of Great Plains Conference
- + Previously served in senior staff positions at the General Council on Finance and Administration and the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry (2002-2016)
- + Attended four General Conferences (2004-2016) as agency staff
- + Delegate to the 1996 South Central Jurisdictional Conference from Nebraska
- + Served on various board in the Nebraska Conference in mid-to-late 1990s
- + Served on various local church boards and committees in Tennessee, Kansas, and Nebraska

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

I have a passion for our mission. If elected, I intend to represent the interests of the Great Plains Conference and advocate for our right to missional self-determination. As someone who knows the stresses and strains of General Conference and has trained many staff on how to survive it, I am also committed to support our whole delegation (even those I disagree with) so we can be prepared, productive, healthy, and faithful.

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

I think my knowledge of our global church, agencies, governance structure, the Book of Discipline, and the financial state of the denomination can be very helpful in representing the interests of the Great Plains. As the denomination faces its greatest crisis in at least a century, I think this kind of technical knowledge and practical experience will be helpful and needed at General Conference.

I'm also a natural bridge builder, strategic thinker, joke teller, and I can carry a tune.

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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?

Please know that as treasurer of the Great Plains, I am committed to serving all of our churches and people, regardless of their views. But as a father, I am committed to raising my children in a church that fully includes them and all God's people, no matter what.

I still grieve the harm done to the body of Christ in St. Louis. The past few months have exposed the reality that our divisions are too great to be papered over by mere legislation; unfortunately legislation is still one of the few tools we have moving forward.

I think the time has come for all of us to make peace and find a way to do our ministry that is authentic to our individual calls. I am committed to finding ways that the congregations and people of the church can achieve missional self-determination while doing as little additional damage to the body of Christ as possible.

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

As of the date of this writing (March 15), things still feel bleak and broken. As I think of all the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead, I am filled with equal measures of terror and hope.

But, let us never forget that God is still God, people still need Jesus, and our Wesleyan tradition still preaches God's grace better than any other tradition. We may not have all the resources we want, but what we do have — money, people, talent, inspiration — is and will be sufficient for our God-given task.

Yes, there is a tremendous amount of work ahead, but God is still calling us to serve in a world that desperately needs grace and hope right now. More than anything, I'm ready to get to work.