



AC 2019

## Communication Prior to Registration

*Bold and Effective Leaders...Wisdom, Heart, Courage.* This is the focus of the 2019 Annual Conference in Acme, Michigan May 30 – June 2, 2019. Bold and Effective Leaders is the second in the series based on the vision statement of the Michigan Conference.

Ways of developing leadership unfold throughout the 2019 Annual Conference. Keynote speakers are daughters of our conference who are now global leaders in their fields, Becca Farnum among them. Preachers Bishop David Bard, Director of Clergy Excellence Rev. Jennie Browne, and Associate Director of Lay Leadership Development Laura Witkowski will be lifting messages of leadership with clergy and laity.

The toolbox of practical application materials is full of options such as UMCOM's Wednesday workshop on Developing a Church Marketing Plan, Rev. Gary Step's introduction to Roads to Vibrancy, and Path 1 consultant Rev. Kim Griffith's session on StrengthsFinder: *Learn What You Do Best, and Lead from Your Best.* Rev. Shane Bishop is offering a lunch session on multi-site churches, and Rev. Michael Beck with Fresh Expressions is offering a session on *Creating New Places for New Faces.* Children's Ministry Coordinator Rev. Kathy Pittenger will model *Playground / Grace Space: caring for children in worship* during plenary. One church will take back the materials used during annual conference!

Conference begins with Opening Worship and Memorial Service on Thursday, May 30 at 10 am and concludes after the 2 pm Service of Commissioning and Ordination on Sunday, June 2. Conference ends at 5 pm following the Commissioning and Ordination Reception. You can find a [block schedule here](#).

### How to Get There

Centralized events and onsite shuttles means there will be little or no need for a car once you arrive. New this year, shuttle buses have been added to several hotel hubs in Traverse City. Take the bus to Grand Traverse Resort, then pick up a shuttle to one of the main hotel hubs on the loop.

Comfortable passenger coach buses will depart the first location at 8 am and following locations as noted below. Plan to arrive 30 minutes prior to the scheduled departure. **Cost is \$50 per person/round trip.** All bus lines will stop for lunch (on your own). You can leave your car in a parking lot at each location at your own risk. If you chose to 'take the shuttle' you will need to make reservations for Wednesday night through Saturday night accommodations. The bus departs Grand Traverse Resort Sunday at 5 pm.

### Center Line

8:00 am Departure from Kalamazoo @ the Wesley Foundation (2350 Ring Road N., Kalamazoo 49006) →  
9:25 am Departure from Jackson @ Calvary UMC (925 Backus St, Jackson 49202) →  
10:25 am Departure from Lansing @ MI Area Ministry Center (1011 Northcrest Rd, Lansing 48906) →  
11:40 am Departure from Mt. Pleasant @ Wesley CMU (1400 S Washington St, Mt. Pleasant 48858) →  
Arrive at the Grand Traverse Resort & Spa in Acme around 2 pm

## East Line

8:00 AM Departure from Southfield @ Hope UMC (26275 Northwestern Hwy, Southfield 48076) →

9:25 AM Departure Flint @ Hope UMC (4467 Beecher Rd, Flint 48532) →

10:25 AM Departure from Saginaw @ Central Bay District Office (3617 Mackinaw St, Saginaw 48602) →

Arrive at the Grand Traverse Resort in Acme around 2 PM

## Where to Stay

### Onsite Lodging Options

Options at the Grand Traverse Resort include Hotel Rooms and Grand Tower Rooms (both attached to meeting spaces), and Condos (connected by a complimentary shuttle service). You will be able to request and pay for a double or single occupancy Hotel room, Tower room, or One-Bedroom Condo on the registration form. If you do not indicate a roommate name for a double occupancy, one will be assigned to you. If family members are staying with you and are not members of AC, they need to register as a visitor and select a double room.

There are a limited number of rooms and condos at the Grand Traverse Resort, and overflow housing offsite is inevitable. You are highly encouraged to find a roommate to share a double room (2 beds) so fewer members to annual conference need to make a daily commute.

You can lower your cost by having a triple or quadruple occupancy in one of these rooms. Complete your registration online, then you contact Jen Peters at [jpeters@michiganumc.org](mailto:jpeters@michiganumc.org) to finalize arrangements and room charges. Have your roommates' names ready, as we cannot assign triple and quad roommates.

**Two and Three-Bedroom Condos** are also available onsite. You will be able to complete your registration online, but you must contact Jen Peters at [jpeters@michiganumc.org](mailto:jpeters@michiganumc.org) to finalize arrangements and room charges. Have your roommates' names ready, as we cannot make roommate assignments for the 2 and 3 Bedroom Condos.

The hotel requires a valid credit card per room when you arrive. Shared rooms/roommates must stay the same nights or full single rate will be applied. Images of condos and rooms can be found at [2019.michiganumc.org](http://2019.michiganumc.org). You have the option to extend your stay before or after Annual Conference at the conference rate! These dates include May 27 (Memorial Day), 28, June 2, 3 & 4 (limited spaces post-conference). You can select these dates on the registration form and then pay the hotel directly onsite. Once your registration is processed, you will receive a hotel confirmation email directly from the Resort.

**Hotel:** 240 Rooms in six-story hotel attached to meeting space | Standard Hotel Room with WiFi | two Full Beds or one King Bed & pull-out sofa | Rates per night include lodging tax: Single: \$125 | Double: \$65 | \*Triple: \$45 | \*Quad: \$35

**Tower:** 186 modern rooms attached to meeting space | Improved Lighting and WiFi | Spacious bathrooms | All rooms have a mini fridge | 2 Queen Beds OR 1 King Bed with Twin Murphy Bed | Rates per night Include lodging tax: Single: \$169 | Double: \$85 | \*Triple: \$60 | \*Quad: \$45

**Condo:** spacious and quiet | Detached from the meeting space, distances vary | Access to free shuttles, furnished dining area, kitchenette, living room, WiFi | Perfect for those with special dietary needs who need to prepare their own food | Rates per night include lodging tax:

- 🍷 1 Bedroom Condo: 1 Bed, 1 Pull-Out sofa | Single: \$179 | Double: \$90 | \*Triple: \$60
- 🍷 2 Bedroom Condo: 2 Beds, 1 Pull-Out sofa, 2 bathrooms | \*Single: \$229 | \*Double: \$115 | \*Triple: \$80 | \*Quad: \$60 | \*Five: \$45
- 🍷 3 Bedroom Condo: 3 Beds, 1 Pull-Out sofa, 2 bathrooms | \*Single: \$285 | \*Double: \$145 | \*Triple: \$95 | \*Quad: \$70 | \*Five: \$60 | \*Six: \$50 | \*Seven: \$40

\*Contact Jen Peters, [jpeters@michiganumc.org](mailto:jpeters@michiganumc.org) to reserve.

## Offsite Lodging Options

Once the Grand Traverse Resort is full, other hotel blocks will open. They will be posted on the [2019.michiganumc.org](http://2019.michiganumc.org) site. They will likely cost more than staying onsite. You must make your own arrangements.

Note: Equalization members are required to stay onsite. When rooms sell out onsite, offsite hotel blocks will open. You are responsible for the cost of offsite lodging and are eligible for reimbursement of up to \$65 per night. Complete a voucher with receipt at the Registration/check-in desk.

**Dorm Rooms** at Northwestern Michigan College (1701 E Front Street, Traverse City, MI 49686) Configured in Suites - Two Rooms Connected by a Bathroom | Two Twin Beds| Mini fridge, microwave, WiFi | Free parking, no shuttle | Linens can be reserved for an additional \$15/person. The linen package includes a bottom fitted sheet, top sheet, blanket, pillow, pillow case, wash cloth and a bath towel \$55 per night/person + 6% tax (no roommate, shared bathroom) \$35 per night/person + 6% tax (you will have a roommate) \$90 per night + 6% tax (two rooms connected by a bathroom).

This option is not available on the AC registration form. [Click here](#) to download the NMC reservation form (this is 2018 information). Northwestern Michigan College will post their 2019 rates and form in March.

### Camping Options:

[Kewadin Indian Mission](#) Campground Contact Steve Antoine 231.620.1911 to arrange.

[Keith J. Charters Traverse City State Park](#)

[Everflowing Waters Campground](#)

## Meals

The Commission on the Annual Conference Session has worked very closely with the Grand Traverse Resort's new Food & Beverage Manager and Chef to craft delicious menus for our conference.

**Special Dietary Needs** Grand Traverse Resort has committed to providing complete menus for those with special dietary needs. They have partnered with [Third Coast Bakery](#), a local gluten-free, dairy-free, allergen-safe bakery. Their items are delicious! You'll find their items on the [menu](#) used for gluten-free rolls, buns, and breakfast items.

If you avoid any of the seven main allergens (dairy, egg, tree nuts, peanuts, shellfish, fish, wheat/gluten), you can safely dine from the special allergen-free buffet line. There will be one buffet line outside of the Michigan Ballroom and one in the Tower/Mackinac/Peninsula Room pre-function space.

Please review menus during registration and select the special dietary meal or standard meal. If you have concerns once onsite, please see the Grand Traverse Resort staff.

Meals are served buffet style. Final meal costs include a 20% gratuity for service personnel who serve and prepare the meals. Breakfast is \$12 | Lunch is \$15 | Dinner is \$20 | Wednesday Dinner Burger Bar is available for \$18. There are also four onsite restaurants.


Other breakfast options are Sweetwater American Bistro or Hotel and Tower room service. Breakfast is considered optional and not included in Equalization Member rates.

There is no dining hall; Focus Meals and General Meals will be in meeting rooms. Final locations for meals will be posted onsite and in the program book. Focus Meals are open to anyone unless it is noted as 'Invitation Only'.

## Focus Meal Schedule








### Wednesday, May 29

#### Dinner




-  United Methodist Communications Workshop – *Church Marketing: How to Effectively Reach Your Community*

### Thursday, May 30

#### Lunch


-  BMCR/Black Clergy/Committee on African American Ministries
-  Fellowship of Local Pastors & Associate Members
-  Memorial Families
-  Mission Intern 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration
-  New Church Start – Rev. Kim Griffith presents *StrengthsFinder: Learn what you do best, lead from your best*
-  Order of Deacons
-  Retired Clergy

#### Dinner





-  Board of Global Ministries - Celebrating 200 Years in Mission with George Howard from GBGM
-  Committee on Asian American Ministries – Guest Speaker Rev. Benton Heisler
-  Educational Opportunities Tour Hosts – Invitation Only





### Friday, May 31

#### Breakfast

-  Northern Skies District Breakfast
-  Northern Waters District Breakfast

#### Lunch

-  Bishop's Lunch with those appointed to Extension Ministries
-  Methodist Federation for Social Action (MFSA) & Reconciling Ministries
-  Michigan Lay Servant Directors
-  Multi-Site Churches – Rev. Shane Bishop

-  Next Latinx – Ministry with Latinx Youth and Young Adults
-  Roads to Vibrancy with Rev. Gary Step
-  United Methodist Women
-  Wesley Covenant Association

### Friday, May 31

#### Dinner










-  Ala Carte Dinner

### Saturday, June 1




#### Breakfast

-  Haiti Covenant Partners
-  Michigan Clergy Spouse Association

#### Lunch

-  Asbury Theological Seminary Alum
-  Board of Justice
-  Boston University School of Theology
-  Duke Divinity School Alumni
-  Fresh Expression with Rev. Michael Beck: *Creating New Places for New Faces*
-  Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary
-  Liberia Ministry Partnership
-  Methodist Theological School in Ohio Alumni & Friends
-  United Theological Seminary

#### Dinner


-  Bishop's Dinner with Those to be Commissioned and Ordained
-  Newly Retired Clergy Speeches
-  UM Camping Ministries

### Sunday, June 2

#### Breakfast

-  Council on Finance and Administration (Invitation Only)

#### Lunch

-  Explore Calling

#### Reception

-  Reception for those newly Commissioned and Ordained

## Childcare

Grand Traverse Resort has onsite childcare. The Cub House is a licensed childcare center through the State of Michigan. Because these standards meet our protection policy and are conveniently located, we will be utilizing the Cub House. The Michigan Annual Conference is not providing independent care.

Advanced reservations are required, meals are included. For Cub House Reservations, call 231-534-6780. Health insurance information and immunization records are required.

The Conference will reimburse families up to \$75 per day/per child following conference. A receipt is required for reimbursement. You will find a voucher to complete at the AC Registration/check-in desk.

Cub House childcare and reimbursement is provided to allow members of Annual Conference to be present in sessions. The Cub House is not available, and reimbursement does not apply to visitors of AC or non-members.

## Pre-Conference Opportunities – Wednesday

**Golf Tournament** - 4-Person Scramble | Shotgun Start @ 1 pm | \$80 per person

Sign-up for this is not part of the registration system. Contact Rev. Rich Burstall, 989.348.2974, [gvnit2god@yahoo.com](mailto:gvnit2god@yahoo.com) to register and pay. Proceeds Benefit Campus Ministries of the Michigan Conference. [Click here for flyer.](#)

**5k Run / Walk / ElliptiGO** | 4 pm Start | \$35 per person

Proceeds will benefit Michigan Disaster Response and Recovery - Sponsored by Board of Pension and Health Benefits. Sign-up for this is not part of the AC registration system - [click here](#) to register.

The 3.1-mile course starts at Jazz Live Field on the grounds of Grand Traverse Resort and loop back to the start area, with portions of the race running on Lautner Road. T-shirts and prizes will be given following the race. You can choose to participate on Wednesday for the big event or complete the walk at some point during Annual Conference.

**United Methodist Communications Workshop** Church Marketing: How to Effectively Reach Your Community | 5 pm | Includes Free Burger Bar

Come join UMCOM as we help church leaders begin a journey to build and implement a strategic marketing plan for their church. We will explore the planning process, branding ideas and various ways that local churches can effectively reach individuals and make an impact. We will also focus on the Church Marketing Plan Tool (CMPT) which is designed to help churches identify and fine tune the strategies needed to increase reach and thrive in the areas that are unique to their community. We hope at the conclusion of this experience each attendee will have the foundational steps needed to build a comprehensive church marketing plan and effectively share their church's story. Facilitated by [Teresa Faust](#). Sign-Up through AC Registration in the Meals section. Limited to first 100 members who register.

**Sight-Seeing** Wednesday, May 29 and the evening of Friday, May 31 you will have unscheduled time to take advantage of several opportunities. Traverse City Tourism can help with whatever questions you have and provide a list of options. [Click here](#) for possibilities.

**Golf Discounts** are available for the three championship courses onsite. [Click here](#) for info.

**Spa Discounts** including 15% off special services such as massage, facial, mani & pedi. [See options here.](#)

## Friday Night Opportunity

Friday night is an unscheduled night. Plenary concludes at 6 pm. You're welcome to leave campus and enjoy the area. There aren't any scheduled Native American site visits this year.

## Native American Dance Exhibition

We are excited to offer a cultural sharing with an Anishinabe Dance Exhibition at the Grand Traverse Resort from 7:30 - 9:00 pm. The Exhibition will be on the grounds at the 55th Hole on Friday night.

We are bringing in folks from a few different tribes in the region and they will share songs on the drum and powwow style dancing. Paul Syrette will be the MC. Yebishawn Oldshield will be dancing and Southern Straight will be the drum for the event. We will have dancers of different ages and from the six different dance styles. Spectators will be invited to come out and dance in an intertribal dance. We will be outside on the grounds weather permitting and in the Michigan Ballroom as the rain site. We are grateful to Rev. Anita Hahn for coordinating the Dance Exhibition!

Ala carte menu items have been added, with dining al fresco at The Plaza (white tent) near the 55th Hole. Dining available outdoors from 6 – 7:30 pm. Menu items include:

- 🍷 Trio of Pulled BBQ Chicken Sliders \$9
- 🍷 Trio of Portobello Mushroom Sliders (vegetarian and gluten-free) \$9
- 🍷 Native American Chili and Fry Bread (or gluten free roll) \$5
- 🍷 Tomato Basil Bisque Soup and Fresh Breadstick \$5
- 🍷 Michigan Berry Shortcake \$4

You must pre-order your ala carte menu items on the registration form so the resort has the proper amount prepared. Sorry - no late registration or onsite purchases will be available. The cost of Friday night menu options are not included for Equalization Members.

## How You Can Help?

Sign up for the following volunteer opportunities through the registration system:

**Ushers & Tellers** collate and disseminate materials and assist with the voting process. It's helpful if Tellers are not voting members to conference.

**Voting Handset Volunteers** needed to check-out and check-in handsets. Non-voting status preferred.

**Conference Choir:** This is an opportunity to participate in worship through singing in the choir. Details will be communicated as they are available to those who sign up. Limited to 100 participants.

**5K volunteers** needed to sign-in participants track their time at the finish line. 10 volunteers needed from 3:30 - 5:30 pm on Wednesday, May 29.

**Grace Patrol:** Do you have a gift of hospitality? Grace Patrol members provide directional help, collect meal tickets, and answer general questions.

## Clergy Retirees & Conference Equalization Member Rate

**Retired Clergy** will have the \$125 cost of registration waved for Annual Conference. You are responsible for all other expenses. The registration fee is automatically deducted in the registration program, so the balance at the end is your responsibility. You may pay immediately with a credit card or mail a check (instructions are given in your registration confirmation).

**Conference Equalization Members** Those persons who are seated because of their positions of conference leadership shall have their basic expenses paid for by the Annual Conference. This makes it possible to invite diverse laypersons without giving them a large financial burden. Please “take what you need” but also “use what you take.”

Equalization members are required to stay at Grand Traverse Resort unless it is sold out, so register early!

Expenses covered for Equalization Members:

- 🍷 \$125 Registration
- 🍷 Onsite conference lunches and dinners
- 🍷 Northern Skies or Northern Waters District breakfasts if a member of one of these districts.
- 🍷 Up to \$65 per night toward housing for up to 4 nights (this covers the cost of a Hotel Double at the Grand Traverse Resort).

Expenses NOT covered for Equalization Members:

- 🍷 Travel expenses or bus shuttle
- 🍷 Wednesday lunch and dinner, and additional breakfasts,
- 🍷 Offsite meals or meals at the Grand Traverse Resort restaurants.
- 🍷 Housing expenses that exceed \$65 per night (i.e., the additional cost for a Hotel Single or Tower room)

If you select a more expensive room option, Wednesday lunch or dinner, or additional breakfasts, the balance for those expenses will appear at the end of your registration. You are responsible for paying them either immediately with a credit card, or by mailing a check.

When rooms sell out at the Grand Traverse, blocks in local hotels will be made available. You will be responsible for the cost of offsite accommodations, though you will be able to fill out a voucher from the Registration/check-in desk for reimbursement of up to \$65 per night.

## Need More Information?

Check the website for updates: [2019.michiganumc.org](http://2019.michiganumc.org)