Agenda for Church Conference 2026

BUSINESS SESSION AGENDA

1. **Elect a Secretary:**
   Have someone ready to do this, with a vote of the conference to confirm it. Minutes need to be typed, signed by the (elected) secretary and sent (via scan/email) to the District Office. A copy of the minutes also should remain at the church.

2. **Adoption of previous Church Conference minutes:**

3. **Lay Leadership Committee Report (Nominating Committee):**
   After the pastor gives the report and any changes are made, as needed, a motion to accept the report should be made. This includes empowering the committee to continue filling any openings remaining, with the Church Administrative Board/Council confirming these persons.

4. **Membership Report:**
   The *2020/2024 Book of Discipline* allows persons to be removed after their names have been read two years. Any names read last year can be read this year as names to be removed. Any new "first year" names need not be literally read if they are handed out in printed form.

5. **Staff Parish Relations Committee - Motions to Be Presented:**
   The following motions are on the church conference form "Business of the Church Conference," which is in the Forms Library at MichiganUMC.org under Resources → Forms.
   (*Do not present compensation recommendation report*.)

   a. Clergy Salary Support**:** A motion needs to be made to set each Appointed Clergy Salary (this includes permanent Deacons whose primary appointment is at the church).

   b. IRS Housing Exclusion**:** A motion is needed to set the "IRS Housing Exclusion" for a minister. This is an amount set by the minister to provide for housing needs. This is available whether a minister lives in a parsonage or in their own home. It is designating part of the salary for exclusion from income tax and is not an additional amount to be paid. For a minister living in a parsonage, this amount will usually be lower, as the costs to the minister to live in that house are less and this number tends to be higher for a minister that lives in their own home and may include any Cash Allowance for Housing paid to the minister by the church that is included in the salary voted on at the Church/Charge Conference.

   c. Special Recommendations:
      - Lay Servants, Lay Speakers, Certified Lay Ministers**:** Individual motions needed for each to be renewed.
      - Candidates for Ministry**:** This motion is to recommend a person to the District Committee on Ordained Ministry for Candidacy. The initial vote needs to be a paper ballot with a 2/3 majority. Report the vote. Save the ballots. The person should have a chance to say a word to the conference prior to the vote. Continuing Certified Candidates need to be approved every year.

   d. Ministry Shares Report: What percentage of ministry shares have been paid to date?

Additional Reports (optional):

Pastor's Report:

Closing Prayer and Benediction: