

The Global Young People's Convocation (GYPC) will be held on July 18-22, 2018 at the Indaba Hotel and Conference Centre in Johannesburg City, South Africa.

The GYPC is the global event for United Methodist young people. It is held once every four years for the purpose of:

- celebrating the mission and vitality of young people in the United Methodist Church;
- raising the joys and concerns of young people from the global community;
- developing young people as leaders for effective ministry in local churches and communities of faith;
- highlighting emerging trends in youth and young adult ministry;
- and providing a common forum that embraces the global reality of the church.

The GYPC has a Legislative Forum, which is the venue for proposing and discussing legislation related to issues of concern to young people. The 2016 General Conference of the UMC approved a proposal to change the legislation part of the GYPC from "assembly" to "forum." (§1210 Section 1-2 of the UMC Book of Discipline). This change provides more flexibility about how the legislative work is cared for during the convocation.

Each Jurisdiction or Central Conference is entitled to send voting members to the GYPC:

- 5 Youth
- 5 Young Adults
- 2 Adult Workers

In the Jurisdictions, youth should be 12-18 years old (at the time of the GYPC), and the young adults should be 19-30 years old (at the time of the GYPC), chosen through a process outlined by each Jurisdictional Young People's Ministry (§1210 Section 3 of the UMC Book of Discipline).

At the time of GYPC, Central Conference delegates should follow the age definitions set in their Central Conference. Youth, young adult, and adult worker delegates from the Central Conferences shall be elected by Central Conference youth or young adult organizations. In case there is no Central Conference youth or young adult organization, a Central Conference standing committee on young people's ministry may elect the delegates to the GYPC (§547 Section 4 of the UMC Book of Discipline).

Adult workers elected as official GYPC delegates are expected to serve as chaperones for the youth in their delegation.

The process for choosing delegates should be clear, fair, and well publicized among youth, young adults, and adult workers. Such a process should also take into account the need to be inclusive in terms of race/ethnicity, gender, geographic location, and annual conference/episcopal area membership.



Non-voting members may also attend the GYPC. They can participate in discussions, but are not able to vote. Non-voting members may come from youth and young adult members of the general agencies, members and staff of the Division on Ministries with Young People, and additional members from jurisdictions, central conferences, and ecumenical partners.

Registration will open on October 30, 2017. Scholarships, based on need, will be available for voting members. Announcement for scholarship applications will be made a later date.

For the latest GYPC-related information, please visit <http://UMCYoungPeople.org/the-latest/GYPC-2018>. For questions, please contact Mighty Rasing via email: [mrasing@umcdiscipleship.org](mailto:mrasing@umcdiscipleship.org)