

**Greater New Jersey Annual Conference
The United Methodist Church**

**NOMINATION FOR LAY MEMBERS-AT-LARGE
2012-2016 Quadrennium**

To: Local Church Lay Leaders and Administrative Board or Council Chairs
From: Rosa Williams, Conference Lay Leader

Grace and Peace to you in the Name of Jesus, our Risen Savior!

We are writing on behalf of the Conference Laity Council to seek your help in identifying lay members for our Annual Conference. As you probably know, the Discipline defines that each Annual Conference must have equal numbers of lay and clergy members. Because of the large number of retired clergy and clergy serving in extension ministries in our conference, it is necessary to appoint additional lay members, known as Lay Members-at-Large, to equalize the membership of the Annual Conference. Our Conference rules require that the GNJ Laity Council identify these At-Large members each Quadrennium.

Those elected members will serve for the 2012-2016 Quadrennium which begins following the 2012 Annual Conference. They will serve in addition to the local church members who have already been elected by their individual churches to serve as its member. At-Large Lay Members must not be simultaneously serving as Lay Members elected by their charge conferences or as At-Large Lay Members, serving the conference by virtue of other offices they hold (such as chairs of Conference Teams, Boards and Agencies), as the intent is to have more people able to participate, rather than having one person serve multiple roles.

Each local church is invited to nominate one person who is a member of their church. The Church Council must complete the enclosed form and the Acceptance of Person Recommended must be signed. All nominations must be returned to the address below by no later than **April 20, 2012**. The Laity Council will elect members from among these nominations at their April meeting.

We are an Annual Conference of churches growing in discipleship and ministry for Jesus Christ. It is the mission of this Annual Conference to equip local churches for ministry by identifying, supporting, training and nurturing lay and clergy leaders to strengthen local congregations for ministry in the world. We ask your help in identifying persons within your congregation who can help carry out this mission in this important period in the life of our Conference by serving as additional Lay Members- At-Large.

Please send completed forms to:
Rev. Sung Ahn
Greater NJ Conference
1001 Wickapecko Drive
Ocean, NJ 07712

or fax c/o the Conference office in Ocean Township: 732-359-1049 to be considered. ALL nominations must be received by no later than April 20, 2012.

Questions? Please contact Rosa Williams: rosamw@optonline.net

Blessings to you as you follow the leading of the Holy Spirit in this process. In Christ's amazing love.

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Name of Nominee: (please print clearly) _____

Local church affiliation: _____

How long has this nominee been a member of this local UMC? _____

STATEMENT OF LOCAL CHURCH ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL / BOARD:

In nominating the above person to serve as a Lay Member-at-Large for the Greater New Jersey Annual Conference during the 2012-2016 Quadrennium, we certify that the person we are nominating:

- is an active and prayerful disciple of Jesus Christ
- meets all of the disciplinary requirements to be a member of the Annual Conference:
- Has been an active member of the United Methodist Church for at least four years
- Has been an active member of **this** local United Methodist Church for at least two years
- is willing to serve the Annual Conference in roles beyond the local church during their tenure as a Lay Member-at-Large

We understand that this is a **nomination** and that only the GNJ Laity Council has the authority to elect Lay Members-at-Large from among the nominees. All nominees will be notified of their status in **May 2012. Those elected will serve for the 2012 –2016 Quadrennium, which begins following the end of the 2012 GNJAC session in June and runs through the close of the GNJAC session in 2016.**

Please check all that apply:

- Nominee is a youth (age 14 – 18) _____
- Nominee is a young adult (age 19 – 20) _____

Signed on behalf of the Administrative Board/Council of _____ UMC:

Name: (Please print) _____

Signature _____ Telephone: (____) _____

STATEMENT OF NOMINEE

By my signature below, I certify that I meet all of the above requirements for lay membership in the Greater New Jersey Conference as a Lay-Member-at-Large. If elected, I will do everything within my power to faithfully serve the conference by:

- Prayerfully supporting the work of the Conference
- Participating in Conference and District events, including Annual Conference, District Conference, training sessions and District Resource Days
- Being present and serve for any and all sessions of Annual Conference unless excused in advance in writing by the Conference Secretary.

Name of nominee: (please print clearly) _____

Address: _____

Telephone: (____) _____ email address: _____

Signature of nominee: _____