

Preparing for General Conference Central United Methodist Church Lenoir City

During the entire 123 year history of Central UMC, God has been faithful and God will be faithful to us in this next season of ministry. As you know, there is uncertainty about the direction of the United Methodist Church. We also know that as Christians, “we walk by faith not by sight” (2 Corinthians 5:7)

Therefore we, as your administrative council, want to communicate proactively and transparently during 2024 and as we approach General Conference April 23-May 3, 2024. Therefore, we have five focuses as we prepare for General Conference.

- 1) **Prayer** - We invite and covet prayers for our church, Holston Conference, and The United Methodist church and its leaders. It is part of our membership commitment, to uphold the church and its leaders in our prayers. There is a weekly prayer from our Holston Conference Delegation that you can [subscribe](#) to.
- 2) **Communication** - We will keep you informed on news that affects the life and ministry of the church. Here are a few links for more information:

[A Beginners Guide to General Conference
2020 General Conference in 2024
Official General Conference Website](#)

- 3) **Conference Information Sessions** - We encourage you to attend one of Holston Conference Delegations Sessions to prepare for General Conference. The two closest to Central are:

March 24 - First UMC Maryville 3-5pm (804 Montvale Station Road - Maryville, TN)
April 7 - Ooltewah UMC 3-5pm (6131 Relocation Way · Ooltewah, TN)

- 4) **Unity** - Jesus’ prayed in John 17:20-23 that his followers may be one so that the world may know that Jesus is real. During this time of division and disagreement, we want to foster a sense of unity in our congregation. While we may not agree on everything, we will love each other, believe the best about one another and speak the truth in love.
- 5) **Dialogue** - For three Sunday afternoons at 3pm, we will have afternoon gatherings in the worship center. All are invited to attend.

April 14 - A Concert of Prayer for General Conference
April 21 - Understanding the Proposed Legislation and Social Principles
May 5 - What was the result of General Conference?

We are thankful for the ways God is working in and through our church. Thank you for all you do to help us live into our vision of “helping people find and follow Jesus.”

Your Administrative Council