

## General Conference Update and FAQs

In a [November 18 virtual meeting](#), the Commission on General Conference - the group tasked with planning The United Methodist Church's quadrennial global gathering - said they would decide in the first three months of 2022 whether The United Methodist Church's top legislative assembly can go ahead as scheduled [Aug. 29-Sept. 6 in Minneapolis](#).

General Conference is the only body that can officially speak for the church. The coming gathering has 862 voting delegates — 55.9% come from the U.S., 32% from Africa, 6% from the Philippines, 4.6% from Europe and the remainder from concordat churches that have close ties to The United Methodist Church. Half of those delegates are lay and half are clergy. The South Georgia Conference is allotted eight delegates - four laity and four clergy.

The 2020 General Conference session was postponed due to the COVID outbreak, was rescheduled for later that year, postponed again to 2022, and now we look to the Commission for what the next step is.

As United Methodists wait on the Commission's announcement, Bishop David Graves would like to remind conference members of the [Frequently Asked Questions document](#) put together last August. This [FAQ document](#) arose out of the collaborative work of the delegation, the Cabinet, the Leadership Forum Task Force, and the Compass Group to help educate and inform conference members about General Conference.

Conference leaders are already working on an FAQ 2.0 document to be released soon after the Commission makes their announcement.

"I know these are uncertain times," Bishop Graves said. "I commend our churches for choosing to focus on making disciples, and I encourage you to keep changing your corner of the world. That should be our focus and priority. There are people who are starved for the word of God, and you have the power to be a life-changing voice to them."