



This document includes information about what you need to know before you register.

Members of the new Michigan Conference (Detroit and West Michigan Annual Conferences) will gather for the 2018 Michigan Annual Conference at the Grand Traverse Resort & Spa, May 31-June 3. Details can be found at [2018.michiganumc.org](http://2018.michiganumc.org).

'ENGAGE with' will bring together these two annual conferences in Northern Michigan for a time of worship and fellowship for a historic gathering. This will be the last time the Detroit Annual Conference and the West Michigan Annual Conference will meet as separate organizations. On January 1, 2019 we will become the Michigan Conference of The United Methodist Church.

Conference begins with Opening Worship & Memorial Service on Thursday, May 31 at 10 AM and concludes with the 2 PM Ordination Service on Sunday, June 3. Conference ends at 5 PM following the Ordination Reception. You can find a block schedule [here](#).

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## **Take the Shuttle!**

In order to make the journey to Traverse City easier for much of the Michigan Conference members, we invite you to take the shuttle to the Grand Traverse Resort & Spa! Centralized events, onsite shuttles and connecting with friend's means there will be little or no need for a car once you arrive.

Comfortable passenger coach buses will depart the first location at 8 AM and following locations as noted below. **Plan to arrive 30 minutes prior to the scheduled departure.** Cost is \$50 per person/round trip. All bus lines will stop for lunch (on your own). You can leave your car in a parking lot at each location at your own risk. If you chose to 'take the shuttle' you will need to make reservations for Wednesday night through Saturday night accommodations. Sunday departure is 5 PM.

**North Line** | Due to low registration numbers. This option has been canceled.

Escanaba @ Central UMC (322 S Lincoln Rd, Escanaba 49829) | 8 AM Departure  
→ St. Ignace @ St. Ignace UMC (615 US Highway 2 W, Saint Ignace 49781) | 10:45 AM Departure  
→ Mackinaw City @ Church of the Straits (307 N Huron, Mackinaw City 49701) | 11:15 AM Departure  
→ Arrive at the Grand Traverse Resort & Spa in Acme around 1:15 PM

**Center Line** | Kalamazoo @ the District Office (2350 Ring Road North, Kalamazoo 49006) | 8 AM Departure  
→ Jackson @ Calvary UMC (925 Backus St, Jackson 49202) | 9:25 AM Departure  
→ Lansing @ MI Area Ministry Center (1011 Northcrest Rd, Lansing 48906) | 10:25 AM Departure  
→ Mt. Pleasant @ Wesley CMU (1400 S Washington St, Mt. Pleasant 48858) | 11:40 AM Departure  
→ Arrive at the Grand Traverse Resort & Spa in Acme around 2 PM

**East Line** | Southfield @ Hope UMC (26275 Northwestern Hwy, Southfield 48076) | 8 AM Departure

- Flint @ Hope UMC (4467 Beecher Rd, Flint 48532) | 9:25 AM Departure
- Saginaw @ Saginaw Bay District Office (3617 Mackinaw St, Saginaw 48602) | 10:25 AM Departure
- Arrive at the Grand Traverse Resort & Spa in Acme around 2 PM

**All buses arrive at Grand Traverse Resort & Spa in Acme, Michigan!  
(100 Grand Traverse Village Blvd, Acme 49610)**

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## **Onsite Lodging Options**

**Onsite lodging options are not available. The Grand Traverse Resort is booked. Check the website for other hotel blocks.**

Onsite lodging options include the Grand Traverse Hotel Rooms and Grand Traverse Tower Rooms (both attached to meeting spaces), and Grand Traverse Condos (connected by a complimentary shuttle service). You will be able to request and pay for a double or single occupancy Hotel room, Tower room, or 1 Bedroom Condo on the registration form. If you do not indicate a roommate name for a double occupancy, one will be assigned to you. If family members are staying with you and are not members of AC, they should register as a visitor and select a double room.

There are a limited number of rooms and condos at the Grand Traverse Resort & Spa, and overflow housing offsite is inevitable. You are highly encouraged to find a roommate to share a double room (2 beds) so fewer members to annual conference need to make a daily commute.

If you would like to lower your cost by having a triple or quadruple occupancy in one of these rooms, you will be able to complete your registration online. Then you MUST contact Jen Peters at [jpeters@michiganumc.org](mailto:jpeters@michiganumc.org) to finalize arrangements and room charges. Please have your roommates' names ready, as we cannot assign triple and quad roommates.

2 Bedroom Condos and 3 Bedroom Condos are also available onsite. You will be able to complete your registration online, but you MUST contact Jen Peters at [jpeters@michiganumc.org](mailto:jpeters@michiganumc.org) to finalize arrangements and room charges. Please have your roommates' names ready, as we cannot make roommate assignments for the 2 and 3 Bedroom Condos.

The hotel requires a valid credit card per room when you arrive. Shared rooms/roommates must stay the same nights or full single rate will be applied. Images of condos and rooms can be found at [2018.michiganumc.org](http://2018.michiganumc.org). Please note you have the option to extend your stay before or after Annual Conference at the conference rate! These dates include May 28 (Memorial Day) & 29, June 3, 4 & 5. You will be able to include these dates on the registration form and then pay the hotel directly onsite. Once your registration is processed, you will receive a hotel confirmation email directly from the Grand Traverse Resort & Spa.

Hotel | 240 Rooms in Six-Story Hotel Attached to Meeting Space | Conveniently Located | Comfortable | WiFi  
\$125 Per Room / Per Night / Includes lodging tax | Single: \$125 | Double: \$65 | \*Triple: \$45 | \*Quad: \$35  
2 Full Beds OR 1 King Bed & Pull-Out Couch

Tower | 186 Modern Rooms Attached to Meeting Space | Improved Lighting and WiFi | Spacious Bathrooms  
\$169 Per Room / Per Night / Includes lodging tax | Single: \$169 | Double: \$85 | \*Triple: \$60 | \*Quad: \$45  
2 Queen Beds OR 1 King Bed, Twin Murphy Bed | All room have a Mini Fridge

Condo | Spacious and Quiet | Detached from the Meeting Space, Distances Vary | Access to Free Shuttles |  
Furnished Dining Area, Kitchenette, Living Room, WiFi

\$179 Per Condo / Per Night / Includes lodging tax | 1 Bedroom Condo - 1 Bed, 1 Pull-Out Couch  
Single: \$179 | Double: \$90 | \*Triple: \$60

\$229 Per Condo / Per Night / Includes lodging tax | 2 Bedroom Condo - 2 Beds, 1 Pull-Out Couch, 2  
bathrooms

\*Single: \$229 | \*Double: \$115 | \*Triple: \$80 | \*Quad: \$60 | \*Five: \$45

\$285 Per Condo / Per Night / Includes lodging tax | 3 Bedroom Condo - 3 Beds, 1 Pull-Out Couch, 2  
bathrooms

\*Single: \$285 | \*Double: \$145 | \*Triple: \$95 | \*Quad: \$70 | \*Five: \$60 | \*Six: \$50 | \*Seven: \$40

\*Contact Jen Peters, [jpeters@michiganumc.org](mailto:jpeters@michiganumc.org) to reserve.

*Once the Grand Traverse Resort & Spa is close to full, other hotel blocks will open up. They will likely cost more than staying onsite.*

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## **Offsite Lodging Options**

You must make your own arrangements.

### [Kewadin Indian Mission Campground](#)

Contact Steve Antoine 231.620.1911 to make arrangements or with questions.

### [Keith J. Charters Traverse City State Park](#)

### [Everflowing Waters Campground](#)

Dorm | [Northwestern Michigan College](#) (1701 E Front Street, Traverse City, MI 49686) | Configured in Suites -  
Two Rooms Connected by a Bathroom | Two Twin Beds, desks with chairs, built-in closets/dressers | Mini  
Fridge, microwave | WiFi | Free Parking, No Shuttle | Linens can be reserved for an additional \$10/person. The  
linen package includes a bottom fitted sheet, top sheet, blanket, pillow, pillow case, wash cloth and a bath  
towel

This is 2017 information. The college has not updated their 2018 information yet.

This option is NOT available on the registration form. [Click here](#) to download the reservation form.

Northwestern Michigan College has not updated their form yet. It is coming soon. Contact person is Lisa,  
231.995.1409 or [leiden@nmc.edu](mailto:leiden@nmc.edu).

\$55 per night/person + 6% tax (no roommate, shared bathroom)

\$35 per night/person + 6% tax (you will have a roommate)

\$90 per night + 6% tax (two rooms connected by a bathroom)

## Meals

The planning team has worked with the chef to make changes and improve the dining experience. We are pleased with the improvements and believe you will be as well. The cost of dinner has been reduced to \$20! Check out menus and photos on the [2018 AC Website](#).


The catering staff partners with local artisans and organic farmers. The collaboration between the chefs and trusted partners is designed to provide culinary experiences that celebrate wellness and sustainability.

There is no dining hall; Focus Meals will be in meeting rooms, and gathering spaces with tables will be available for eating General Meals. Final locations for meals will be posted onsite and in the program book. Focus Meals are open to anyone unless it is a noted 'Invite Only' meal. Please indicate on your registration any dietary restrictions so that catering staff can provide the appropriate meals. Cost includes gratuity for service personnel who serve and prepare the meals. Lunch is \$15, Dinner is \$20. New this year is an optional Wednesday Dinner Burger Bar for \$18. There are 4 onsite restaurants as well.



Breakfast is buffet style and is \$12. Other breakfast options are Sweetwater American Bistro or Hotel and Tower room service or on your own. All breakfast options are at your own expense.

## Meals and Focus Meal Opportunities

### Wednesday Lunch - \$0

- **Beyond Borders Workshop with Lunch**  
 Click [here](#) for details. How can local churches be in ministry with Hispanics/Latinos? What borders do we need to remove in order to do so? This is an intensive workshop to answer these questions and to create a ministry plan. While this workshop will focus on Hispanic/Latino ministry, concepts can also be applicable to working with people of any culture/language group different from the church's majority.




### Wednesday Dinner - \$18

- **Burger Bar**  
 This meal is an onsite option for the convenience of those arriving early on Wednesday. It will be served from 5 to 6:30 PM (cost is not included for Lay Equalization members).
- **United Methodist Communications Workshop with Dinner**  
 **Launching an Engaging Web Ministry** - Telling stories of faith and sharing messages through the digital world is vital to helping your church engage the community. In today's environment most people research a church online before they decide if they will fellowship in person. United Methodist Communications will share best practices and effective techniques for creating a broader online presence for your church. This workshop will lay the foundation for planning and implementing an online strategy to help members and seekers connect with a church's story through a church website and social media outlets.


#### Thursday Lunch - \$15

- **General**
- **Liberia Task Force**
  -  Report with photos of the International Roundtable Meeting in Ganta, Liberia, called by Bishop Samuel Quire in April 2018. Purpose of the meeting was to gather all Conferences and Agencies from around the world who support The United Methodist Church activities in Liberia to plan and coordinate future activities in support of Bishop Quire's strategic plan. We will also have an update with photos of Bishop Judith Craig Children's Village.
- **Local Church Representatives for Native American Ministries**
  -  A gathering of "Local Church Representatives for Native American Ministry" who may be attending Annual Conference together so that they can be equipped to do that for which they have been nominated.
- **Order of Deacons**
  -  We will discuss the new children's literacy campaign and celebrate deacon ministries. All are welcome as we share how bridges are being built across the world.
- **Reach New People I: IdeaMart**
  -  Work hands-on with practitioners to brainstorm possibilities for reaching new people for Christ.
- **Retired Clergy**
  -  A time for Retired Clergy to have fellowship together and check in with another. For more information click [here](#).
- **Wesleyan Covenant Association**
  -  The Wesleyan Covenant Association (WCA) connects Spirit-filled, orthodox churches, clergy, and laity who hold to Wesleyan theology.

#### Thursday Dinner - \$20

- **General Dinner**
- **Board of Global Ministries**
  -  An update on the Flint Water Crisis with Gregory Timmons
- **Hispanic/Latino Ministries**
  -  We will be having a speaker come from a Hispanic/Latino Community Center in Michigan and talk about ways that the church can partner with the Hispanic/Latino community.
- **Committee on Asian-American Ministries**
  -  *Building Relationships with our Asian American Neighbors* will include diverse speakers and issues: Senator Hoon, Rev. Bill Chu, Rev. Anna Moon, Rev. Jinny Song, and Rev. Nathan Nguyen.








#### Friday Breakfast

- **General Breakfast - \$12**
- **Welcome Breakfasts for District 1-5 - \$0**
  -  Click [here](#) for list of districts with churches.




#### Friday Lunch - \$15

- **General**
- **Bishop's Lunch with Those Appointed to Extension Ministries**


 Closed gathering for those appointed to extension ministries.

- **Commission on African American Ministries (Black Clergy / Black Methodists for Church Renewal)**  
 Business Meeting for Black Clergy, Black Methodists for Church Renewal, Commission on African American Ministries.
- **Methodist Federation for Social Action & Reconciling Ministries**  
 Discussion and conversation around the "Truth and Reconciliation Discernment" process and documentary, as well as election of leadership.
- **MI Area Haiti Task Force**  
 There will updates from representatives of VIM Teams who have been to Haiti in the past year.
- **Mission Intern Program**  
 Come learn about the Michigan Conference's Mission Intern Program, which has been building young leaders across the state through servant ministry since 1999. We will have short presentations by host churches, former and current Mission Interns, and an opportunity to answer questions about the program and why it might be a good fit for you, a young person in your life, and/or your church!
- **Racial / Ethnic Local Church**  
 A business meeting.
- **Reach New People II: Make a Plan**  
 Work hands-on with practitioners to help create a MAP for your church to get from here to there in reaching new people for Christ.
- **Town and Country Ministry**  
 Small churches sustainability.

#### Friday Dinner

- **Kewadin & Northport Indian Missions @ 6:30 PM**  
 An evening at Kewadin Indian Mission of traditional native dinner, culture, festivities and storytelling by Northport and Kewadin Indian Missions. Transportation to Kewadin Indian Mission will be available; be sure to sign-up through registration. (Kewadin UMC, 7234 Cairn Hwy. 231.715.1280)
- **Greensky Hill UMC @ 7 PM**  
 Dinner and sharing native culture and traditions at Greensky Hill UMC. Transportation to Greensky Hill UMC will be available; be sure to sign-up through registration. (08484 Greensky Hill Rd., Charlevoix. 231.459.8067)
- **On Your Own - No Conference Dinner Offered**  
 Friday evening is an unscheduled night. Conference will recess at 6 PM and resume again Saturday morning.






#### Saturday Breakfast

- **General Breakfast**
- **Welcome Breakfasts for District 6-9**  
 Click [here](#) for list of districts with churches.


## Saturday Lunch

- **General**
- **Asbury Theological Seminary**  
 This will be a time of sharing among the alumnus of Asbury Theological Seminary that are now serving in the Michigan Conference.
- **Boston University School of Theology**  
 Dean Mary Elizabeth Moore will discuss new developments and initiatives at Boston University School of Theology.
- **Fellowship of Local Pastors & Associate Members**  
 Business meeting and election of officers. Discussion on becoming one Fellowship.
- **Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary**  
 Gathering for alums and friends of Garrett-Evangelical.
- **Lay Servant Directors of the Michigan Conference**  
 Annual business meeting for voting items and approval of Lay speakers and Certified Lay Ministers.
- **Methodist Theological School in Ohio Alumni & Friends - \$0**  
 Gathering for alumni and friends of MTSO.
- **United Methodist Women**  
 Maternal/Child Health Care with Deborah Moore.
- **United Theological Seminary**  
 A gathering for alumnus and friends of United Theological Seminary.


## Saturday Dinner

- **Bishop's Dinner with Those to Be Commissioned and Ordained (Invite Only)**  
 For all 2018 Michigan Area Candidates being commissioned and ordained and their spouses.
- **Board of Justice**  
 #MeToo & the Church.
- **Michigan Pastor Spouse Association**  
 Clergy spouses from all over the state gather to meet and mingle.
- **Newly Retired Clergy Celebration & Speeches**  
 An honoring of those retiring this year and retiree speeches
- **UM Camping Ministries**  
 Camping Ministries update and business meeting.


## Sunday Breakfast

- **General**
- **Council on Finance and Administration (Invite Only)**  
 Business session for West MI and Detroit CFA's.

## Sunday Lunch

- **General (Buffet)**
- **Bag Lunch to Go**
- **Explore Calling (Plated)**  
 Space for the Boards of Ordained Ministry to gather with seminary representatives and those hearing a call to ministry.

## Sunday Ordination Reception

- **Appetizers** - Registration is required at no cost to attendees.  
 This will be a chance to meet and greet the Ordination participants, includes appetizers and light refreshments.
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## Childcare During Annual Conference

Grand Traverse has onsite child care! The Cub House is a licensed childcare center through the State of Michigan. Because these standards meet our protection policy and are conveniently located, we will be utilizing the Cub House and The Michigan Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church is not providing independent care.

**Advanced reservations are required, meals are included. For Cub House Reservations, call 231-534-6780. Health insurance information and immunization records are required.**

The Conference will reimburse families up to \$75 per day/per child following conference. A receipt is required for reimbursement.

**The use of The Cub House is to allow members of Annual Conference to be present in sessions. The Cub House is not available and reimbursement does not apply to visitors of AC or non-members.**

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## Pre-Conference Opportunities – Wednesday

Beyond Borders Workshop | Includes lunch | \$15 | 10 AM to 4 PM

Sign-up through the Annual Conference Registration. This workshop will help the local church members look beyond the borders that we might have created in our local towns, in our cities, and in our minds, and move to ministry with our neighbors, especially our Hispanic/Latino neighbors. Come to this daylong intensive workshop to get questions answered and create a ministry plan. While much of the workshop will focus on Hispanic/Latino ministry, concepts can also be applicable to working with people of any culture/language group different from the church's majority. This is a workshop for churches looking to implant what Jesus teaches us to do, to look beyond our borders.

[Click here for flyer.](#)

Golf Tournament | 4-Person Scramble | \$75 per Person | Shotgun Start @ 1 PM

Sign-up for this is not part of the registration system. Contact Rev. Rich Burstall, 989.348.2974, [gvnit2god@yahoo.com](mailto:gvnit2god@yahoo.com) to register and pay. Proceeds Benefit Campus Ministries of the Michigan Area.

[Click here for flyer.](#)

5k Run / Walk / Bike | \$35 per person | 4 PM Start

Proceeds will benefit Haiti Hurricane Relief - Sponsored by Board of Pension and Health Benefits  
Sign-up for this is not part of the AC registration system - [Please click here to register.](#)



🌈 The 3.1-mile course will start at Jazz Live Field on the grounds of Grand Traverse and loop back to the start area, with portions of the race running on Lautner road. T-shirts and prizes will be given following the race. You can choose to participate on Wednesday for the big event or complete the walk at some point during Annual Conference.

## United Methodist Communications Workshop – Launching an Engaging Web Ministry | Includes Burger Bar Dinner served at 5 PM | \$18 (includes 20% gratuity)

Sign-Up through Annual Conference Registration in the Meals section.

Telling stories of faith and sharing messages through the digital world is vital to helping your church engage the community. In today's environment most people research a church online before they decide if they will fellowship in person. Come join United Methodist Communications as we share best practices and effective techniques for creating a broader online presence for your church. This workshop will lay the foundation for planning and implementing an online strategy to help members and seekers connect with a church's story through a church website and social media outlets.

Participants will also learn about online communication trends, the application of emerging tools and how to utilize an engaging web ministry to open their doors to the community.

## Sight-Seeing

Wednesday, May 30 and the evening of Friday, June 1 you will have unscheduled time to take advantage of several opportunities. [Traverse City Tourism](#) can help with whatever questions you have and provide a list of options. If you're looking to sight-see with others, we will have a 'Communication Board' available in the lobby for you to connect with others for this purpose. [Click here for possibilities.](#)

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## **Friday Night Opportunities**

### Native American Dinners and Site Visits

Kewadin and Northport Indian Missions | 6:30 PM | An evening at Kewadin Indian Mission of traditional native dinner, culture, festivities and storytelling by Northport and Kewadin Indian Missions. Transportation to Kewadin Indian Mission will be available. (Kewadin UMC, 7234 Cairn Hwy. 231.715.1280)

Greensky Hill | 7 PM | Dinner and sharing native culture and traditions at Greensky Hill UMC. Transportation to Greensky Hill UMC will be available. (08484 Greensky Hill Rd., Charlevoix. 231.459.8067)

### Shuttle Access to Downtown


[Golf Discounts!](#)

[Spa Discounts!](#)


## **Volunteer Opportunities**

You can sign up through the registration system.

### Ushers & Tellers

-  Collate and disseminate materials and to count votes on legislation.

### Conference Choir

-  This is an opportunity to participate in worship through singing in the choir. Details will be communicated as they are available to those who sign up.

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## **Clergy Retirees & Conference Equalization Members**





### **Detroit and West MI Retired Clergy**

As voted on last year, retirees of the Detroit Annual Conference and the West Michigan Conference will have the cost of registration waved for Annual Conference (a \$125 expense), but are responsible for all other expenses. The registration fee is automatically deducted in the registration program, so the balance at the end is your responsibility. You may pay immediately with a credit card, or mail a check (instructions are given in your registration confirmation).





### **Conference Equalization Members** (see Rules of Order 5.2.1.3 through 5.2.3)

Those persons who are seated because of their positions of conference leadership shall have their basic expenses paid for by the Annual Conference. This makes it possible to invite diverse laypersons without giving them a large financial burden. Please “take what you need” but also “use what you take.” Equalization members are required to stay at Grand Traverse Resort & Spa unless it is sold out, so please register early!

Expenses covered for Equalization Members:

-  \$125 Registration fee
-  Onsite Conference lunches and dinners
-  One “New District Breakfast”
-  Up to \$65 per night towards housing for up to 4 nights (this covers the cost of a Hotel Double at the Grand Traverse Resort)

Expenses NOT covered for Equalization Members:

-  Travel expenses
-  Wednesday lunch, dinner and additional breakfasts
-  Offsite meals or meals at the Grand Traverse Resort restaurants
-  Housing expenses that exceed \$65 per night (for example, the additional cost for a Hotel Single or Tower room)

If you select a more expensive room option, Wednesday lunch or dinner, or additional breakfasts, the balance for those expenses will appear at the end of your registration. YOU are responsible for paying them either immediately with a credit card, or by mailing a check.

When rooms do sell out at the Grand Traverse & Spa, blocks in local hotels will be made available. You will be responsible for the cost of offsite accommodations, though you will be able to fill out a voucher for reimbursement of up to \$65 per night.