

April 19, 2022

**United Methodist Followers of Christ in the Alaska United Methodist Conference,**

With this letter, I call the regular 2022 session of the Alaska United Methodist Annual Conference to meet online at the following times:

- Alaska Clergy Sessions – June 2, 10:00-12:00 p.m. AKT
- Alaska Pre-Conference Informational Meeting - to be determined
- GNW Laity session – June 14, 5:30 p.m. AKT
- GNW Opening Session – June 19, evening
- Alaska Conference Plenary Session – June 20, 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. AKT
- PNW Service of Commissioning & Ordination, June 22, daytime
- Oregon-Idaho Service of Commissioning & Ordination, June 24, daytime
- GNW Closing Session – June 25, daytime

Please hold these dates on your calendar. Registration for this year's conference session and other related information is now available and can be accessed at the following link: [https://gnw-reg.brtapp.com/2022\\_AK\\_ACSession](https://gnw-reg.brtapp.com/2022_AK_ACSession).

As individuals and together as the church, we continue to make our way through unsettling times that test and strain the social fabric we all rely upon. A pandemic that never seems to end truly, resistance to equity and justice for people of color and the LGBTQIA+ community, global conflict and war unlike what has been seen in generations, and a United Methodist Church, continuing to exhibit a fractious nature has made us all weary. Enmity has grown while goodwill and even basic civility have receded.

As people of faith, we are called to be different and model a better way to be for the world. The Apostle Paul writes these words of counsel in 1 Corinthians 16:13-14:

"Stay awake, stand firm in your faith, be brave, be bold.  
Everything should be done in love."

At our annual conference sessions this year, we will reflect on these words of holy advice as encapsulated in our theme, Called to be: alert, faithful, brave ... Love. In these unsettling times, how can we live into this call so that we may continue – and begin again – the transformative, life-giving work God would have us do? Paul's words suggest we must hold fast to our convictions without resorting to the animosity only possible when we speak and act absent love.

As the Alaska United Methodist Conference prepares to meet, may these words guide our work as we prepare legislation and reports and hold clergy and laity sessions ahead of our online conference sessions.

May God grant us the wisdom and the courage for the living of these days.



**Bishop Elaine JW Stanovsky**

Attachment:

- [Who may attend and participate in Annual Conference?](#)