



Greater Detroit District

Michigan Conference

THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

July 8, 2021,

Dear Fellow Clergy:

Grace and peace to you and your families in the precious name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord! I hope and pray that you and your congregations are well and abiding by safety and health precautions as we do ministry together in this time of the coronavirus pandemic.

The purpose of this letter is to share the following information with you pertaining to the 2021 church conferences in our district:

1. Bishop Bard and the Michigan Conference Appointive Cabinet are encouraging that Annual Charge/Church Conferences in 2021 be held by Zoom unless there are extenuating circumstances requiring in-person gathering. This measure will ensure the safety and well-being of all leaders and members of our congregations during this uncertain time. We are aware that the statistics on the virus are moving in the right direction and want to be cautious of what might happen when summer ends and the weather begins to cool down.
2. Ms. Dwanda Ashford, district executive assistant, will email each appointed and/or assigned clergy a Dropbox link where each clergy must deposit all required documents at least 10 days prior to the date of their Annual Church/Charge Conference. Please look out for that email soon.
3. This year's Church/Charge Conference schedule is attached for your review and confirmation. Please contact Ms. Dwanda Ashford by phone at (313)481-1045 with any scheduling questions right away.
4. I am asking each lead pastor to share the Zoom link to the Church/Charge Conference (*which will be sent to the pastor one week prior to your Annual Charge Conference*) with all members prior to the date of the conference. *This means the district office will **Not** send links to individual members of your charge conference.*
5. **In case your church would like to use its Zoom account instead of the district's account to convene the church/charge conference, please contact Ms. Dwanda Ashford at the district office to make arrangements no later than September 10, 2021.**

Please know that I am praying for you as you continue to lead in these challenging times.

With faith and commitment,

Rev. Dr. Charles S. G. Boayue, Jr.

Rev. Dr. Charles Boayue, Jr.
District Superintendent

Dwanda Ashford
Executive Assistant

Beth Titus
Director Justice & Mission Engagement