



KANSAS-OKLAHOMA CONFERENCE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST



Official Call to the Fifty-Eighth Annual Meeting Kansas-Oklahoma Conference, United Church of Christ

October 18-19, 2019
Doubletree Hotel, Tulsa, OK

The Kansas-Oklahoma Conference Annual Meeting will convene on Friday afternoon October 18th at 1:00 P.M. and will adjourn no later than 4:00 P.M. on Saturday, October 19th.

Voting Membership. The voting membership of the Conference shall consist of **the lay delegates selected by and representing each local church which has membership in the Conference, all ordained, commissioned and licensed ministers who have membership in the Conference, the members of the Conference Council and all such other persons as the Bylaws shall provide.** (KO Bylaws)

Each local church having standing in the Kansas-Oklahoma Conference **shall be entitled to two voting lay delegates** and each such **church having a membership of more than 200 shall be entitled to an additional voting lay delegate for each additional 200 members or fraction thereof.** No delegate or official representative at the meetings of the Conference shall be entitled to more than one vote. The control of the Conference shall reside in its voting members and may be exercised directly at any annual or other meeting of the Conference or, between meetings of the conference, through and by a Conference Council elected by the 49 Conference. (KO Bylaws)

Planning for Annual Meeting:

The Annual Meeting program has once again been designed with the intent of widening the table of access. While many are thankfully already “invested” in the life of the Conference, there are others who know little about our internal life and will not be intrigued by the ongoing business. But they may know the name of a keynote speaker and would love to hear them if only they were scheduled at a time that didn’t conflict with what is still a typical Monday -Friday work week for many. Perhaps we can widen our table simply by being conscious of scheduling. Business is important and has to be attended to; but being mindful of when and for whom may matter.

Consequently, Friday will be a day of educational workshops and business; Friday evening dinner will be a time of celebration of ordination anniversaries, welcoming new pastors, and worship. While visitors are welcome to register for the full annual meeting; there will also be a Saturday only registration that will include meals and two presentations by Rev. Diana Butler Bass.

REGISTRATION DEADLINES

Full Registration Opens Wednesday August 14th; Closes September 24th; Saturday Registration Only Opens Wednesday August 14th; Closes Friday, October 11th.

Event Registration:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/annual-meeting-2019-tickets-66482804859>

PROGRAM

Keynote Speaker: Rev. Diana Butler Bass

Diana Butler Bass is an author, speaker, and independent scholar specializing in American religion and culture.



She holds a Ph.D. in religious studies from Duke University and is the award-winning author of ten books, including *Grounded: Finding God in the World — A Spiritual Revolution* (HarperOne, 2015), *Christianity After Religion: The End of Church and the Birth of a New Spiritual Awakening*

(HarperOne, 2012) and *Christianity for the Rest of Us: How the Neighborhood Church is Transforming the Faith* (HarperOne, 2006). *Grateful: The Transformative Power of Giving Thanks* was released by HarperOne on April 3, 2018. Read more of her bio on the KO website.

Learn About the Tulsa Massacre and Tour the Greenwood Cultural Center

One of the things we have not done as well as we might is to be engaged in the reality of the



community where we are meeting; that has likely been because we are familiar with Wichita. But we are not as familiar with Tulsa. And Tulsa is the site of the Tulsa Massacre in 1921; it has been called “the single worst incident of racial violence in American history.” As Tulsa prepares to commemorate the 100th Anniversary of the massacre, the planning committee encourages you to plan to arrive in Tulsa early and participate in a tour of the Greenwood Cultural Center and learn about this piece of history that is

part of this city and our Conference. This is part 1 of a Friday afternoon workshop; part 2 will be an opportunity to debrief the experience. Because this will require tour guides at the center, pre-registration is required. **Arrive on Friday at the Greenwood Cultural Center by 9:45; the 90-minute tour will begin at 10:00.** Finish in time to grab lunch on your own and be ready for the opening plenary at 1:00.

Read here about Black Wall Street: <https://www.theringer.com/2018/6/28/17511818/black-wall-street-oklahoma-greenwood-destruction-tulsa>

<https://www.theringer.com/2018/6/28/17511818/black-wall-street-oklahoma-greenwood-destruction-tulsa>

AGENDA AND PROGRAM:

The agenda outline for the meeting is below and additional information with details of the business will be available in the next several weeks.

THURSDAY

- Boundary Training/Focus: Cultural Competency
- Committee on Ministry A Training

FRIDAY MORNING

- Members in Discernment Lunch with Committee on Ministry D
- Committee on Ministry A with Lunch
- Boundary Training (begins on Thursday)
- OFF SITE VISIT/TOUR GREENWOOD CULTURAL CENTER

NOTE: ALL CONFERENCE RELATED BUSINESS WILL BE ON FRIDAY; Afternoon Plenary Convenes at 1:00.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON

Friday Afternoon Includes Plenary and Workshops

- Gathering and Opening Prayers
- Council Report and Business; including any resolutions submitted
- Conference Minister Report
- Proposed Changes to the KO Constitution and Bylaws
- Report and Opportunity for Input Listening Sessions

3:30 Workshops

Friday Dinner

- Recognition of Ordination and Church Anniversaries
- Introduction of Authorized Ministers New to KO and Members in Discernment (MIDs)
- Awards and Recognitions

Friday Evening

- Worship

SATURDAY

On Saturday, Annual Meeting Participants Will Welcome a Wider Gathering of Faith and Community Partners

- Breakfast includes words from Phillips Seminary
- Welcome Opening Prayers; Introduction of DBB by Financial Ministries of the United Church of Christ
- Presentation Diana Butler Bass MOVE to PLENARY HALL
- Lunch and Book Signing/ Visit Display Areas/ Conversation Groups.
- Presentation/ including questions Diana Butler Bass
- 3:00 Sending forth