

## REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Event Registration deadline, with payment, is due Aug. 23, 2018. You can let us know earlier with a partial payment.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Lay\_\_\_ Clergy\_\_\_ Local or Elder \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Phone/Cell \_\_\_\_\_

Conference \_\_\_\_\_

District \_\_\_\_\_

Church \_\_\_\_\_

Single Bed Room— (\$698.00) \_\_\_\_\_ (X)

If Bringing Spouse add \$125.00 for meals

Spouse's name \_\_\_\_\_

Double Beds - (\$410.00) \_\_\_\_\_ (X)

Roommate \_\_\_\_\_ (or selected)

Commuter - (\$150.00) \_\_\_\_\_

Arrival Date \_\_\_\_\_ Departure Date \_\_\_\_\_

Drive or Fly \_\_\_\_\_

Amount enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to UMRA. Send to:  
Rev. Debra Ketcham  
8632 County Rd. 91, Lewistown, OH 43333

## UMRA Legislative Consultation 2018

WHO: Lay & Clergy Committed to Rural Ministry

WHEN: Tuesday, October 2, 2018, from 2:00 p.m.  
to Friday, October 5, ending at Noon

WHERE: Crown Plaza Northstar  
Downtown Minneapolis

WHY: Advocate for Rural Church and Community

Help Develop UMRA Legislation for 2020

Help Plan UMRA GC Work and Direction

Plan Mission Opportunities

Learn What Is Going Well in Rural Ministry

Team Building - Networking

Banquet & Auction on Thursday Evening

COST: \$410.00/person\* - Double occupancy

\$698.00/person -Single \*

\*includes 3 room nights, 2 lunches and 1 dinner

Group rates are available 3 days pre- and post-

event only at time of registration for \$192.00/

Room, incl. tax

Local Commuters —\$150.00

Includes 2 lunches and 1 dinner,

and hospitality room

For more information contact:

Rev. Debbie Ketcham <revdsk@frontier.com>

8632 County Rd. 91, Lewistown, OH 43333

or call: 614-580-2382 (cell)



## 2018 Legislative Consultation

for  
Lay and Clergy  
Advocating for  
Rural,  
Town & Country  
Issues

October 2, 2018  
through  
October 5, 2018  
at the  
Northstar Crown Plaza  
in  
Minneapolis, MN



The mission of the United Methodist Rural Advocates is to advocate for the work of Jesus Christ in rural communities. Believing God has called and gifted us for this task, undergirded by the Practice of the Wesleyan means of Grace, we covenant together to grow spirituality.

The U.M. Rural Fellowship was born at a General Conference in the 1940s, as a group of rural pastors and lay delegates realized the people and congregations they represented were not present in the discussions of the top legislative body of the denomination. They gathered together to share their concerns and strategize ways to lift the life, ministries, and concerns of rural churches before the leadership of the United Methodist Church.

After being known as the Rural Fellowship for 7 decades, our name changed to Rural Advocates in 2013, to reflect the fact that we are more than a fellowship, we are Advocates. Join us in our work!

**60 Million People:** No state or national leader would ignore a community 60 million people strong. That is more than seven times larger than New York City. The rural population in the United States, with over 60 million people, is often overlooked because they are not all living in the same community or state.

Many UM church goers attend smaller membership churches. More than half of all UM churches are under 100 members. The communities these churches represent and the pastors who have chosen to follow God's calling to minister in these churches have many shared needs. The United Methodist Rural Advocates (UMRA) understands the varied needs of rural communities, their churches, and seeks to provide advocacy, education, and support for the fulfillment of Christ's ministry in rural communities.

Whether your church is urban or rural, large or small, UMRA invites you to join our group of ministry leaders who serve rural communities and rural churches. UMRA provides advocacy for rural churches and rural issues at General Conference and Annual Conferences to effect rule changes that empower churches to more effectively minister in their communities. UMRA also provides education for rural church leaders and supports church leaders in personal growth and ministry.

Join us in serving the needs of rural ministry leaders, and the needs of over 60 million Americans living in rural areas. Join the UMRA at our next Consultation in Minneapolis, Minnesota!



Sincerely,  
Rev. Randy Wall,  
President of the United  
Methodist Rural Advocates

### **Fast Facts:**

UMRA has proposed legislative changes at General Conference that give value to pastors of smaller membership congregations and affect the roles of rural church leaders.

Our legislation found in the UM Book of Discipline has made a transformative change in our church!

We worked diligently for these & others:  
NOW format of church leadership  
Certified Lay Ministers  
Voting Privileges for Local Pastors  
Funds from closed rural churches remaining in the rural areas.

With the median size congregation in the U.S. of 52 members, there are many shared needs for all rural churches, regardless of their location.

Your input is important and valued. You can help make changes, through legislation, which can help small and rural churches become more vital and transformative.

We invite you to support our work by becoming a member of UMRA.

For information contact:  
Rev. Carl Ellis  
590 120th St.  
Fort Scott, KS 66701  
cellis@larcm.org or go to our website at:  
[www.umruraladvocates.org/umra-membership.html](http://www.umruraladvocates.org/umra-membership.html)

To make a donation to support our ministries, send a check or money order to:  
UMRA % Judy Hill, UMRA Treasurer  
3642 Road D  
Joes, CO 80822