General Conference 2020 Hospitality Team Volunteer FAQs

Why volunteer?
Volunteering at General Conference provides a tremendous opportunity to see the United Methodist connection up-close and welcome siblings in Christ from around the world. This experience will allow you to meet and get to know people from across the globe, and to see firsthand that the body of Christ we are part of is so much bigger than our individual congregations and even our conference.

Do I have to volunteer for all 10 days of the conference?
No. Shifts are three hours long, and you can choose to do one shift on one particular day or multiple shifts over several days. Each volunteer can opt to do up to two shifts in a single day.

Is there a uniform or dress code?
Yes. Each volunteer should come to their shift wearing a plain, light-colored top that covers your shoulders, along with dark pants or a dark skirt that extends below the knees. Upon arriving at their particular volunteer site, every volunteer will be issued a purple vest to help guests identify you during your shift. You will return the vest when your shift is over. Volunteers may not wear or display buttons, stickers, or any campaign material while volunteering.

Will childcare be available?
Childcare is available April 29, April 30, May 5, May 6, May 14, and May 15. Contact Jan Russell (612-230-6150) to reserve a space.

Can I volunteer for the General Conference Host Team and other groups during the event?
Yes. When your volunteer shift is complete, you will return your purple vest. You are then free to volunteer for other organizations that will be at the conference.

Do I have to drive all the way downtown and park?
No. Volunteers are welcome and encouraged to park at one of several park-and-ride lots around the Twin Cities. A circulator van will pick you up from these locations and take you to your volunteer site. The park-and-ride sites are:
- Brooklyn UMC: 7200 Brooklyn Blvd., Brooklyn Center, MN 55429
- Centennial UMC: 1524 W County Road C2, St. Paul, MN 55113
- Richfield UMC: 5835 Lyndale Ave. S., Minneapolis, MN 55419
- The Grove (formerly Woodbury UMC): 7465 Steepleview Road, St. Paul, MN 55125
Will meals be provided?
All expenses related to travel, lodging, and meals are the responsibility of the volunteer. Given the large number of volunteers needed to provide hospitality for the Hospitality Team, we are unable to provide compensation for these expenses.

I don’t live in the Twin Cities. Are there housing options?
Yes! We have negotiated rates of $99 a night at the following hotels (just mention that you’re part of the UMC General Conference volunteer team):
• Moxy (1121 W. Lake St, Minneapolis, MN 55408). More info: https://tinyurl.com/GC2020moxy
• Holiday Inn Express (2715 Long Lake Road, Roseville, MN 55113). More info: https://tinyurl.com/GC2020HIroseville
• Holiday Inn Express (6051 Golden Hills Drive, Golden Valley, MN 55416). More info: https://tinyurl.com/GC2020HIgoldenvalley

You can also camp at one of these three sites:
• Lebanon Hills Campground, Apple Valley. More info: https://tinyurl.com/GC2020lebanonhills
• Baker Park Reserve Campground, Maple Plain. More info: https://tinyurl.com/GC2020bakercampground

From your hotel or campground, you can go to one of the park-and-ride stations listed above and be taken to your volunteer site via circulator van.

Is there a minimum age to volunteer?
Volunteers must be at least 16. Volunteer drivers must be at least 25.

Can I observe after I volunteer?
Yes, but you must register as an observer and be credentialed to observe. General Conference registration will open later this year.