Dear friends,

My name is Shannon Priddy. I am humbled to serve as a delegate to 2020 General Conference. When I started the process, feeling called to fill out the candidate form, to being elected and now learning and growing with the delegation, I had a basic understanding of the role I was undertaking. I thought I had a basic understanding of the policies and procedures of the church. Now I know there is so much more. There is conferencing and reading and meeting new people and being willing to have honest, open conversations.

This is a time of learning. I am doing a lot of reading. I want to know and understand the legislation. I want to understand differing points of view. I believe this is all part of my commitment to church and faith. I am doing all this to grow and develop as a strong, Christian woman.

My faith is built on tradition and history. I am baptized and confirmed in The United Methodist Church. I do believe that God pulls you to church when he has something to tell you. But I also believe that it is about more than me. My faith teaches me to stand alongside the oppressed and marginalized. Through church, I have learned that anyone can lead others to God.

I want to be in fellowship and community with others. I want to learn different perspectives and read different translations of the Bible. I want to be imperfect within a group of Christ’s followers not because I think I am better but because it will help me do better.

I am sure there are other members of the church that have similar feelings. I am struggling with the conjecture and planning and guessing. I want to sit next to you and fellowship and learn. I hope that you feel the same.

There is more to church than tradition and history. There is change and new and exciting and scary.

There are people learning to lead that are searching for the support of church. This is my opportunity to be the hands and feet of God. Thank you for your prayers and support.

Sincerely,
Shannon