



THE 26TH QUADRENNIAL CONVENTION ON CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

ZION UNIVERSITY

THE RENEWAL PROJECT • ISAIAH 58:12
JULY 18-22, 2026

GREENVILLE CONVENTION CENTER
1 EXPOSITION DR, GREENVILLE, SC 29607

Join us for Zion University: The Renewal Project, the 26th

Quadrennial Convention on Christian Education. This quadrennial gathering of Christian Education leaders is more than a convening—it is a time to BUILD! Together, we will celebrate the work of the Christian Education Department and its leaders, affirm new leaders for VICYC, ACE, and YACM for the 2026–2030 quadrennial term, assess the state of Christian Education across the church, and partner together to strengthen our systems and strategies and chart a renewed course for the future. Like the builders in Isaiah’s vision, we gather as repairers of the breach, entrusted with healing divides and forming pathways where faith can flourish in both church and community.

The Renewal Project challenges us to honor the wisdom of the past while boldly reimagining how Christian Education must function in a changing world. It calls us to rebuild not only programs and structures, but people, strengthening what has been weakened and renewing our commitment to life, learning, and leadership. Through prayer, collaboration, and shared commitment, we take up the work of renewal together, laying foundations that will bless generations yet to come.

Lastly, we are excited to offer the **SOAR Academy** for children and youth. Using STEAM learning as an engaging teaching approach, the Academy is designed to nurture faith in young people while exposing them to vocational possibilities, problem-solving skills, and new levels of creativity. It is our prayer that this experience will aid our young people to imagine both who they are becoming in Christ and what they can contribute to their world.

See you in Greenville!



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REGISTRATION AND HOTEL RESERVATIONS OPEN MARCH 1

Pre-Registration March 1–June 30	On-Site Registration Beginning July 1
Children (3–12): \$150	Children (3–12): \$175
Youth (13–21): \$150	Youth (13–21): \$175
Emerging Adults (22–25): \$165	Emerging Adults (22–25): \$190
Adults (26+): \$175	Adults (26+): \$200

CONFERENCE LOCATIONS

Greenville Convention Center

1 Exposition Drive, Greenville, SC 29607

SOAR Academy

Activities for youth and children will be held at
Hilton Greenville 45 W. Orchard Park Dr, Greenville, SC 29615

CONFERENCE HOTELS

Embassy Suites Greenville Golf Resort

670 Verdae Blvd, Greenville, SC 29607

Nightly Room Rate: \$139.00 plus 12% tax • Parking: \$10 per day (self-parking)

Crowne Plaza Greenville

851 Congaree Rd, Greenville, SC 29607

Nightly Room Rate: \$139.00 plus 12% tax • Parking: Complimentary self-parking

Hilton Greenville

45 W Orchard Park Dr, Greenville, SC 29615

Nightly Room Rate: \$139.00 plus 12% tax • Parking: Complimentary self-parking

Hyatt Place Greenville Haywood

40 W Orchard Park Dr. Greenville, SC 29615

\$130/night + 13% tax • Parking: Complimentary self-parking

GENERAL ASSEMBLY & DELEGATIONS

As we return to a general assembly model for our CED conventions, each episcopal district is asked to send a full delegation. Our prayer is for full participation for this important gathering.

Required Delegates Include:

- Episcopal Director
- Conference Director
- Conference Young Adult Representative
- Conference Youth Council President
- District Director of Christian Education
- District Director – Children
- District Director – Youth
- District Director – Young Adults
- District Director – Adults
- Additional appointed district officers
- District Youth Council President
- District Local Churches Representative (*One local CED leader elected to represent the local churches of the district*)

Please contact your Episcopal Director of Christian Education for further information regarding delegation expectations and coordination.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND ZION UNIVERSITY?!

EVERYONE!! Our bishops, board members, presiding elders, pastors, clergy, Christian educators, lay leaders, children, youth, young adults, members of VICYC, ACE, or YACM, church school leaders, supporters of Christian education, and *especially* our CED delegates as outlined above.

STRATEGY LABS / WORKING GROUPS

Conference attendees will select one of the following working groups during registration:

- Youth and Young Adult Engagement
- Education Advocacy & Partnerships
- Clergy & Lay Leadership Development
- Early Childhood Faith Formation
- Public Witness & Community Impact
- Family Support & Wellbeing
- Worship Renewal & Multigenerational Engagement

Join other AME Zion leaders in shaping vibrant and fruitful ministry across the denomination by participating in a Renewal Project Strategy Lab. These collaborative groups will bring clergy and lay leaders together over the course of the convention to develop practical tools, models, and strategies that can be adapted and implemented in our local churches and communities.

Each attendee is asked to sign up and participate in one of the following Strategy Labs:

Youth & Young Adult Engagement

This team will identify strategies to strengthen engagement, leadership development, and sustained faith formation among youth and young adults by examining current cultures, sharing effective practices, and developing adaptable tools for local church implementation. This group is ideal for youth directors, youth ministers, campus ministers, young adult leaders, Christian educators, pastors, church school superintendents and teachers, and ministry teams concerned about next-generation ministry.

Education Advocacy & Strategic Partnerships

This team will explore practical ways that churches can effectively champion education by advocating for educational equity and building strategic partnerships around childcare, charter schools, and after-school programs. This group is ideal for pastors, educators, CED leaders, childcare providers, parents, VBS and church school leaders, and ministry workers engaged in educational outreach.

Clergy & Lay Leadership Development

This team will focus on strengthening leadership capacity by identifying best practices, development pathways, and collaborative approaches that support effective clergy and lay leadership in local churches and departments. This group is ideal for pastors, presiding elders, directors, clergy, lay leaders, organizational leaders, and those responsible for leading and managing teams.

Public Witness & Community Impact

This team will explore approaches to public ministry that equip churches to expand their impact beyond the church walls; engaging communities through ministries of justice, service, and advocacy. This group is ideal for clergy, lay leaders, advocates, ministry teams, and those with a heart and passion for community engagement, equity, and social justice work.

Early Childhood Faith Formation

This team will develop strategies and resources that help churches build sustainable ministries for young children and nurture faith in early childhood through age-appropriate practices and strong partnerships with families. This group is ideal for children's directors and ministry workers, church school superintendents and teachers, pastors, parents, caregivers, early childhood educators, and all who are concerned with providing meaningful nurture and developmental support for children.

Family Support & Wellbeing

This team will identify ministry strategies that support the spiritual, emotional, and practical wellbeing of families. They will recognize diverse family structures and needs across life stages and translate insights into tools for local churches. This group is ideal for pastors, family ministry leaders, parents, caregivers, counselors, and those supporting families in congregational and community settings.

Worship Renewal & Multigenerational Engagement

This team will engage in intentional conversation and strategic planning around worship renewal, exploring how local churches can remain rooted in Methodist theology and liturgical identity while crafting worship experiences that are vibrant, Spirit-led, engaging across generations, and executed in excellence. This group is ideal for pastors, worship leaders, musicians, Christian educators, clergy, and ministry leaders responsible for planning and leading worship.

Stay connected to CED for more exciting convention updates including our featured guest speakers, program highlights, and the quadrennial contests and challenges. We look forward to seeing you at ZU!

Questions? Email us at CED@amezion.org