

CHARLOTTE 2019 THE CHURCH NETWORK 63RD ANNUAL CONFERENCE

> Charlotte, North Carolina July 11-14, 2019

# **FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

# REGISTRATION

How can I register? Is membership with The Church Network included in the registration fee? If I am a member of a local chapter, but not a member of national, can I take the member pricing? I am a national member; can others from my church attend at the member rate? I am not a member of TCN but my co-worker is and cannot attend. Can I use that membership to register at the member price? What are FastTracks? What is included in Daily registration? What is included in my registration? What is NOT included in the registration? If I do not plan to stay for the entire conference can I get a credit or refund for meals? My pastor/guest is coming along but not attending the conference or events. Can he/she reserve a room at the TCN conference rate?

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# **TECHNOLOGY AND SOCIAL MEDIA**

What is the cost of WiFi Internet at the conference? Will there be a conference app again this year?



# REGISTRATION

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## How can I register?

Registration forms are available for download <u>here.</u> Print the form, fill it out, and fax or mail it in to The Church Network office. <u>Online registration</u> is available now.

# Is membership with TCN included in the registration fee? No.

# If I am a member of a local chapter, but not a national member, can I take the member pricing?

No, only national members can receive member pricing.

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# I am a national member; can others from my church attend at the member rate?

Yes, if you are a member, other members from your church can attend at the member price. They can attend from your church and use the member discount. When they login to register, the site should recognize that your church has at least one member.

## What are FastTracks?

FastTracks are per-conference intensive seminars. They are held Thursday, July 11th, during the day before the conference's evening opening event. They are intensive seminars focused on professional network disciplines. Individuals may attend these seminars as stand-alone events at \$149 each (lunch, conference launch, evening meal and tradeshow access included) or add on to a full conference registration for just \$99. Learn more...

## What is included in Daily registration?

Daily registrations include the general session, workshops, access to the trade show (applies to days 2 & 3 of conference only), and lunch for that day only. TCN is not responsible for lost meal tickets.

## What is included in my registration?

Registration fees include admission to the trade show and opening event, access to all general and workshop sessions, a ticket to the special event, and tickets to some meals. Meals included at the meeting are dinner Thursday night, lunches Friday and Saturday, Special Event on Saturday evening, and brunch on Sunday.

## What is NOT included in the registration?

Breakfast is on your own each day and dinner is on your own Thursday and Friday. There is a brunch on Sunday. Network events such as breakfasts, lunches, banquets or field trips are ticketed events which have additional costs.

# If I do not plan to stay for the entire conference can I get a credit or refund for meals?

No, but you are welcomed to post a note on the information board to sell the meal tickets to people who might be one-day registrants or need tickets for family.

## My pastor/guest is coming along but not attending the conference or events. Can he/she reserve a room at The Church Network conference rate?

Yes, we have rooms within our room blocks, and your pastor/guests can take advantage of our rates.

# HOTEL

#### Back to top... What are the conference hotels?

## Headquarters Hotel

Westin Charlotte - \$185/night Parking: \$25/day/Self - \$30/valet Comp Wi-Fi in public areas and for Marriott Rewards Members TCN Rooms blocked: 7/8-7/18/2019 601 S College St Charlotte, NC 28202

## Hilton Garden Inn Uptown - \$99/night

Parking: \$15/day/self - \$20/valet Complimentary shuttle service within 2 mile radius Complimentary WiFi and Fitness Center Refrigerator and Microwave TCN Rooms blocked: 7/11-7/14/2019 508 E Martin Luther King Jr Blvd Charlotte, NC 28202 Located one block from the Charlotte Convention Center

## Hampton Inn Uptown - \$99/night

Parking: \$15/day/self - \$20/valet Complimentary shuttle service within 2 mile radius Complimentary Breakfast, Wi-Fi and Fitness Center TCN Rooms blocked: 7/11-7/14/2019 530 E. Martin Luther King Jr Blvd Charlotte, NC 28202

## Can I make my reservation now?

Hotel Reservations can be made through this <u>link</u> on TCN's conference website. Parking rates and hotel amenities, e.g., breakfast are provided in information about each hotel on this site.

## What is the hotel room rate?

See each hotel above

## Does North Carolina provide me with a Tax Exemption Status?

While North Carolina does provide tax exemption, you must pay the tax and then send appropriate documentation in to request a refund of the tax.

## Do I have to stay at one of the conference hotels?

No, but you do a **great disservice** to TCN if you don't. The availability of last-minute highlydiscounted hotel pricing available over the Internet is a very serious problem being faced by all associations and TCN is no exception. If our people don't stay in our conference hotel because of cheaper last-minute rates elsewhere, then we face the possibility of attrition charges for not filling our room block. Attrition charges are significant and could potentially cripple TCN. You may think it is good stewardship to find a cheaper room elsewhere, but doing so creates very poor stewardship for the association. Please stay at one of the conference hotels. Book your hotel room through this <u>link from our website</u>.

## What are the charges for parking at the hotel?

Each hotel has a different charge for parking, see above under each hotel. There is also fee parking at the convention center.

## What are the charges for Internet at the hotel?

See each hotel's amenities for Internet charges.

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# **FIRST TIMERS**

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## Is there some kind of orientation for first-time attendees?

There is a First-timers Orientation scheduled for Thursday, July 11th at 3:30 p.m. There are then network receptions at 4:15 p.m. followed by the Opening Launch Event and General Session I at 5:30 p.m. and dinner in the exhibit hall at 6:30 p.m.

# SPOUSES AND FAMILY

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#### I signed my spouse up for workshops; are meals included in that fee?

No, meals are an additional cost indicated on the registration form. Be sure to provide your spouse's name on the registration form.

## Are there any special events planned for spouses & children?

Yes, there will be a Spouse and Family Activities Orientation on Friday, July 12th, at 10:30 am. Door prizes will be awarded. Learn about what to do in the area.

Please note: If your spouse/children are coming with you to the conference and want to accompany you in the exhibit hall, they will need name badges. If they will be with you for any meal/event functions/special event, you must purchase extra meal tickets for them prior to arriving at the conference. Deadline to purchase extra tickets is June 19<sup>th</sup>. This can be done when you register, or by contacting Tammy Mirau at <u>tammy@thechurchnetwork.com</u> if you have already registered.

## What if I need extra meal/event tickets?

Extra tickets must be purchased before June 19<sup>th</sup>.

Your registration includes one set of meal/special event tickets (indicated by asterisk on order form) for you; however, you will need to purchase extra tickets for the meals/special events for your spouse, children, etc., if they plan to attend. NOTE: **Deadline to purchase extra** 

tickets is June 19<sup>th</sup>. This can be done when you register, or by contacting Tammy Mirau at <u>tammy@thechurchnetwork.com</u> if you have already registered.

The Charlotte Convention Center must have the meal count prior to the Conference. **THERE WILL BE NO TICKETS SOLD AT CONFERENCE. Tickets must be purchased before June 19**<sup>th</sup> (see Registration Form).

# SPECIAL EVENT

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## Is there a special event?

A visit to **Discovery Place** is the special event on July 13th. Discovery Place conjures curiosity and activates the imagination through experiences that help uncover the wonders of science all around us. A buffet dinner will be served with seating among the exhibits throughout Levels 1 and 2 of the museum. Many exhibits will provide hands-on experiences with the wonders of science and nature, and you can engage in activities of completion and fun. **Be sure to purchase tickets to the special event for your family members who may be with you.** 

# CANCELLATIONS

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**What if I have to cancel my conference registration after the deadline?** For cancellations received prior to May 10<sup>th</sup>, there is a \$50 administration fee (\$25 for FastTrack Only). If you cancel between May 11th and June 13<sup>th</sup> there is a cancellation fee of \$100. After June 13<sup>th</sup> there is no refund. You can do a one-time transfer to the conference in 2020 being held in Orlando, FL. There is a \$50 transfer fee.

# **SCHOLARSHIPS**

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# I want to attend the annual conference, but unfortunately my budget does not allow it. Is there a scholarship program?

Yes, applications for scholarships are available from this link on TCN Website.

# TRANSPORTATION

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## What transportation is available?

Taxi Transportation is available from the Charlotte Douglas International Airport to Center City for a flat rate of \$25. Base charge covers up to two people; \$2 for each additional person. Taxi pick up can be found on Baggage Claim area between Zone B and C – just outside the Visitor Information Desk.

# **CERTIFICATION CEREMONY**

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## When is the certification ceremony for CCAs?

The certification ceremony will take place on Friday morning, July 12<sup>th</sup>, during the general session. CCA candidates should arrive in the Crown Ballroom no later than 8:00 am for the rehearsal.

# **CONFERENCE CITY**

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## Which nights are open for sight-seeing?

With the special event being held on Saturday, Friday is the only open evening, and some networks have scheduled events that night.

## What is the weather like in the Charlotte Area?

July is very warm and humid in Charlotte with frequent shower and thunderstorm activity. The daily high temperatures tend to be in the upper 80s with the early morning lows mostly in the upper 60s.

## ATTIRE

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## What kind of clothing should I bring?

Remember: bring a sweater or jacket since the meeting rooms are often cold! Casual wear is the order of the day. The dress for this conference is pretty much casual from start to finish, such as wearing your TCN logo shirt. Those being certified or receiving awards may want to be more dressed up, though it is not necessary; that is a personal decision.

## MEALS

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#### Are breakfasts included?

No. Breakfasts are on your own. The UM Network group is having a ticketed breakfast event on Friday, July 12<sup>th</sup> and there is a brunch for all (cost included in registration) on Sunday at 10:30 am. See registration form for dates and ticket prices.

# **EXHIBITORS**

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## Which nights are open for entertaining clients?

Friday, July 12th, is the only evening without general conference attendee events, but some networks are having ticketed events that night.

## How do I get day passes to the trade show for my clients?

One-day Trade Show passes are \$190 each and include access to the Trade Show and lunch for that day as well as refreshment breaks.

# Some representative for my company will only be at the trade show for one day. What is the charge?

Two exhibitor registrations come with each booth registration. There is \$190 registration charge for each additional person who will be in the booth at any time during the trade show regardless of the number of days worked. This registration includes a name badge and lunch meal tickets for the days of the trade show.

## When will booths be assigned?

Booth assignments will begin in March for those who have signed up to exhibit with us.

## We have three people who will be working in our booth but one of them is a workshop speaker. Do we have to pay an additional registrant fee for our workshop speaker?

Yes. If your company is presenting an exhibitor workshop the workshop speaker must be registered in your booth; you will have to pay the extra fee.

## Is there a booth discount for Nonprofits?

No.

# **TECHNOLOGY AND SOCIAL MEDIA**

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## What is the cost of WiFi Internet at the conference?

Complimentary Wireless is offered throughout the meeting level of the center including Crown & Richardson Ballrooms, East & West Meeting Wings, Concourses A & C and public spaces. The service has a speed of 768kbps upload/download. See information under accommodations for each hotel's Internet costs.

# Will there be a conference app again this year?

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We will again have a conference app. We will NOT have a printed Conference LINK this year. Information contained in the LINK in the past will now be available through the app. Be sure to download the app and use it to keep up with news, information, schedule, and posts.