

This year's General Synod in Baltimore, MD was my first General Synod. I have no way to compare, but I understand this year was fairly typical. There were 2700 plus persons present on the first of five days. A communion service on Sunday was prepared for 5000 (a biblical number?).

There were persons present from Africa, Asia, Europe, North and South America as well as many island nations, missionaries serving around the globe, new church starts, staffing from the national office, volunteers from Maryland's Conference and many others including persons in native costumes were recognized. A large group from Hawaii presented a dedication of their new conference minister using their native language.

***Many sights and sounds - Much business to conduct and resolutions to discuss -
Workshop's to attend - New friends to make, and old friends to greet***

An interesting and uplifting experience and a true reflection of the many, many faces of the United Church of Christ.

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