



GLOBAL
METHODIST CHURCH

Overview & Quick Facts

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JOHN WESLEY, THE FOUNDER OF THE METHODIST MOVEMENT, PROCLAIMED, "THE WORLD IS MY PARISH." EVER SINCE, THE PEOPLE CALLED METHODIST HAVE COMMITTED TO SHARING THE GOOD NEWS OF JESUS CHRIST WITH PEOPLE ALL AROUND THE WORLD.

IN THAT SPIRIT, FAITHFUL METHODISTS HAVE BEEN PRAYING AND WORKING TO DISCERN GOD'S WILL FOR A NEW CHURCH ROOTED IN SCRIPTURE AND THE HISTORIC AND LIFE GIVING TEACHINGS OF THE CHRISTIAN FAITH.

WHAT IS THE GLOBAL METHODIST CHURCH (GMC)?

It is a church committed to making disciples of Jesus Christ who worship passionately, love extravagantly, and witness boldly. We believe the Global Methodist Church will be filled with warm-hearted, Jesus loving, and Holy Spirit inspired people. They will be grounded in Scripture and the life giving confessions of the Christian faith as found in the Apostles' Creed and the Nicene Creed.

WHAT IS THE MISSION & VISION OF THE GMC?

The Mission of the Global Methodist Church is to make disciples of Jesus Christ who worship passionately, love extravagantly, and witness boldly.

The Vision of the Global Methodist Church is to join God in a journey of bringing new life, reconciliation, and the presence of Christ to all people, and to helping each person to increasingly reflect the character of Christ.

WHY IS THE GLOBAL METHODIST CHURCH IN FORMATION?

The Global Methodist Church has not been legally formed and is not operating as a church at this time. When legally formed, the Global Methodist Church will be as outlined on these pages. We expect the Global Methodist Church will be legally formed and begin to operate as a church when the General Conference of The United Methodist Church adopts the Protocol for Reconciliation and Grace through Separation which anticipates and allows the creation of new Methodist churches. Alternatively, if it becomes apparent that the leading bishops, centrists, and progressives who covenanted to support the Protocol no longer do so, then the GMC Transitional Council will consider bringing the new church into existence without delay.

WHEN WILL THE GLOBAL METHODIST CHURCH BEGIN?

It is widely assumed that the delegates to The United Methodist Church's next General Conference (August 29-September 6, 2022) will approve a plan for the denomination's amicable separation. Once that plan of separation is approved, the Global Methodist Church's Transitional Leadership Council will officially launch the new denomination. Alternatively, if it becomes apparent that the leading bishops, centrists, and progressives who covenanted to support the Protocol no longer do so, then the council will consider bringing the new church into existence without delay. For approximately one year, the Global Methodist Church will be a church in transition as it prepares for its convening General Conference. Unfortunately, due to Covid-19 pandemic induced travel and meeting restrictions, it is not possible to provide an exact date for the official beginning of the Global Methodist Church.

WHAT ARE THE CORE BELIEFS OF THE GMC?

That the one God – the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit – has created all things; that Jesus Christ, through the power of his cross and Resurrection, is the Lord and Savior of all the world; and that the Holy Spirit empowers the people of his church to worship and praise God and to proclaim the Gospel throughout the world in word and deed. (For a full accounting of the church's core beliefs see its Transitional Book of Doctrines and Discipline, pages 4–19 - available at globalmethodist.org.)

WILL THE GMC BE ETHNICALLY & RACIALLY DIVERSE?

Yes! As a truly global church the denomination will be ethnically and racially diverse and will insist on the equal treatment of all the church's members.

WILL THE GMC HAVE WOMEN CLERGY?

Yes! Women, like men, will be called to serve in the Global Methodist Church and will be entitled to serve at all levels of the Global Methodist Church.

WHEN CAN CHURCHES JOIN THE GMC?

Local churches will be able to join the Global Methodist Church shortly after it is officially organized. (See paragraph 352 in the Transitional Book of Doctrines and Discipline for further details on when and how a current local UM church or other churches can join the Global Methodist Church.)

WILL LOCAL CHURCHES THAT JOIN THE GMC OWN THEIR PROPERTY & ASSETS?

According to the Global Methodist Church's Transitional Book of Doctrines and Discipline local churches will own all their property and assets. Since it is widely assumed that the local churches, and annual conferences and central conferences that are strongly inclined to join the Global Methodist Church do not want to be part of a denomination with a "trust clause" (i.e., where local church property is held in trust for a general church), it is almost certain that the Global Methodist Church will never adopt one. Therefore, local churches in the Global Methodist Church will own all their property and assets in perpetuity.

WHERE WILL THERE BE GMC LOCAL CHURCHES?

Within two years of its official initiation date, we believe the Global Methodist Church will have local churches in countries all around the world. Most local churches will initially be in Africa, Europe, Eurasia, the Philippines, and the United States. However, the Church is fully committed to becoming a truly global church, and so having local churches in as many countries as possible.

WILL THE GMC HAVE BISHOPS?

According to the Global Methodist Church's Transitional Book of Doctrines and Discipline (see paragraph 516.2) bishops will only serve for defined term limits. Once they serve their terms they will either return to ministry in a local church or to some other area of service in the general church. It is widely assumed the delegates to the Global Methodist Church's convening General Conference will endorse term limits for bishops. As well as enhanced accountability for bishops to uphold the new Book of Doctrines and Discipline.