



GLOBAL
METHODIST CHURCH

Overview & Quick Facts

John Wesley, the founder of Methodism, proclaimed: **“The world is my parish!”** Ever since, the people called Methodists have committed to sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ with people all around the world. In that spirit, some faithful Methodists have joined together in praying and working to discern God’s will for a new church rooted in Scripture and the historic, life-giving teachings of the Christian faith.

WHAT IS THE GLOBAL METHODIST CHURCH?

Supported by fervent prayers, faithful discernment, and a sure hope for the future, the Global Methodist Church is a Holy Spirit inspired movement coming into existence. The movement birthing this new church was initiated by the Wesleyan Covenant Association. The Global Methodist Church is committed to making disciples of Jesus Christ who worship passionately, love extravagantly, and witness boldly. We believe the GMC will be filled with warm-hearted, Jesus loving, and Holy Spirit inspired people, 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 help each person increasingly reflect the character of Christ.

WHAT ARE THE CORE BELIEFS OF THE GMC?

Our core beliefs are 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 GMC’s core beliefs refer to the *Transitional Book of Doctrines and Discipline* (pages 4–19), available at globalmethodist.org.

WHAT IS THE TIMELINE FOR FORMING THE GMC?

The Global Methodist Church is not yet legally formed. It is widely assumed delegates to the United Methodist Church’s next General Conference will approve the Protocol for Reconciliation and Grace Through Separation, enabling amicable separation and anticipating new Methodist denominations. Upon passage of such a provision, the GMC’s Transitional Leadership Council will officially launch the new denomination. Alternatively, if it becomes apparent leading bishops, centrists, and progressives who covenanted to support the Protocol no longer do so, the council will consider bringing the new church into existence without delay. For approximately one year, the GMC will be a church in transition as it prepares for its convening General Conference. Unfortunately, due to COVID-19 pandemic-induced restrictions, it is not possible to provide exact dates.

WHEN CAN CHURCHES JOIN THE GMC?

Local churches will be able to join the Global Methodist Church shortly after it is officially organized. See the GMC's *Transitional Book of Doctrines and Discipline* (paragraph 352) for further details, such as when and how, for a current local UMC church or other churches to join the Global Methodist Church.

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

According to the GMC's *Transitional Book of Doctrines and Discipline*, local churches will own all their property and assets. Since it is widely assumed that local churches, annual conferences, and central conferences 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 the GMC will never adopt one. Therefore, local churches in the GMC will own all their property and assets in perpetuity.

WILL THE GMC HAVE BISHOPS?

According to the GMC's *Transitional Book of Doctrines and Discipline* (paragraph 516), bishops will serve defined term limits. Once they serve their term they will either return to ministry in a local church or another area of service in the general church. Delegates to the Global Methodist Church's convening General Conference will likely endorse such term limits and accountability for bishops.

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 equal treatment of all the church's members.

WILL THE GMC HAVE WOMEN CLERGY?

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

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. Initially, most local churches will be in Africa, Europe, Eurasia, the Philippines, and the United States. The GMC is fully committed to growing as a truly global church, establishing local GMC churches in as many countries as possible.

Visit globalmethodist.org for more information.