



GLOBAL METHODIST CHURCH UPPER MIDWEST CONFERENCE

Lovingly walk alongside laity and clergy as they make disciples of Jesus Christ who worship passionately, love extravagantly and witness boldly.



UPCOMING GENERAL CONFERENCE NOMINATION PROCESS

by Rev. James Parks, Upper Midwest President Pro Tem

Our Upper Midwest Global Methodist Provisional Conference is now moving into a time of discernment as we prepare for our Annual Conference in June and our denomination's Convening General Conference in September.

At the Annual Conference, we will be electing 12 clergy and 12 laity for our delegation to the Convening Conference. This will give us 6 or 7 delegates, plus 2 alternates, and 3 or 4 reserves. (Our final number of delegates will be given to us in June.) The alternates should plan to attend the General Conference. The reserves will not travel unless someone is not able to serve as a delegate. You can find the directory of those who self-nominated [here](#).

Our Conference Leadership Council is going to offer a recommended slate of delegates to the Annual Conference. All nominees will be interviewed by a team from the Leadership Council. This team will be made up of Leadership Council members who are not going to General Conference. The goal will be to have a slate that represents our whole conference well. This process has been used in other conferences of the Global Methodist Church, especially in conferences like ours that cover a large geographic space and combine several annual conferences from our previous denomination. We may not know everyone in our conference well enough to discern a representative delegation just yet. (We are only 6 months old.)

This process may only be used this time for elections because of our infancy as an organization. This process will also only be used if approved by the Annual Conference. The Annual Conference will have the opportunity to decline using the slate, and we would then enter a process of discernment by individuals. So, the Annual Conference will have to vote to approve our delegation.

I know this could be confusing, so ask questions. Talk with your presiding elder.

Thank you to all who are willing to represent us at the Convening General Conference, where our denomination will move out of our transitional phase. Through much prayer and collaboration, our foundation of doctrine and discipline will be approved. May we all be covering this process in prayer.

In CHRIST,
Rev. James E. Parks

[View General Conference Delegation Nominees](#)



I WANT A PUP FROM THAT LITTER: THE APPOINTMENT PROCESS

by Rev. Ross Reinhill, Upper Midwest Vice President Pro Tem

North Dakota Cowboy Wisdom

When I was young, I remember a couple of old cowboys talking about an outstanding high school football player. This guy was athletic, smart, and a real hard worker. As these old guys discussed and came to their conclusion that this was indeed a fine young man, one of them said, “I want a pup from that litter.” The cowboy’s words tickled my fancy, I never forgot them. I just needed the perfect time to use the phrase, and now I found it.

The Upper Midwest Provisional Conference is about six months old, and we are old enough to have our first rounds of new pastoral appointments. So, **what can we expect from the Conference when it comes to receiving a new pastor?** How do we pick a pup from this litter? Well, we don’t pick alone, the church that is looking to fill a pastoral appointment fills out a church profile with the help of the presiding elder of their part of the conference. Then with prayer and the rest of the cabinet the conference looks at who is available and who has the gifts to match the church. The church examines the pastor or pastors advanced by the Conference. When the right match is found, the match is sent to Bishop Webb for his approval and the fixing of the appointment.

What are the attributes that the Conference considers for someone to fill the role of pastor in the Global Methodist Church?

- First, the Conference will guarantee that the pastor agrees with our Articles of Religion of the Methodist Church and the Confession of Faith of the Evangelical United Brethren Church. Our core beliefs about God, Scripture, and our engagement with the world are non-negotiable.
- Second, we will provide opportunities for education and guidance of pastors ensuring they have the skills to faithfully pastor God’s people. Every pastor is part of a ministry team and mentored by a presiding elder. Though our pastors may start with different degrees of education, all must perform the office of pastor in a Christlike manner.
 - Certified Lay Ministers are laypersons who work on a team headed by an ordained elder. They completed the Conference Lay Ministry School.

- Supply Pastors are people with a call to ministry whose call may have come at a time in their lives when full time seminary education would be difficult. The Supply Pastor is a candidate for ordained ministry committed to a course of study moving them toward ordination.
- Ordained pastors have completed their formal education and have proved the mastery of ministry as guided by the Conference Board of Ministry.
- Finally, the Conference will bring the best person the Conference has for the church. The Conference promises not to allow anything to influence the bringing of the right pastor to the church. Gender and ethnic origin will not be considered, only the needs of the church and the gifts of the pastor to meet those needs. I guess I am saying, we will bring you the pick of the litter.

Through prayer and collaboration, churches will be blessed and so will the kingdom of God. I pray that the matches are so good that everyone who experiences the blessing of their pastor will say, **“I want a pup from that litter.”**

UPPER MIDWEST ANNUAL CONFERENCE



June 13-15, 2024

Sioux City, Iowa Convention Center

Opening Session: Thursday, June 13th at 6:00 PM

Full Schedule for the conference will be available soon!

Register NOW!

[Register Here](#)

Cost:

\$90 per person

\$45 Livestream Only

Fill the Tubs for Disaster Relief

Help Support Our Annual Conference Mission Effort!

We hope your church can join the Upper Midwest Challenge for Disaster Relief to **Fill the Tubs!** GMC congregations are encouraged to collect donations for Just Help One Disaster Response and bring the needed items to Annual Conference. GMC Districts are divided into 4 challenge areas: Minnesota and Montana, Iowa, South Dakota and North Dakota and Nebraska.

The items donated will be used to assemble Disaster Relief Health Kits on Friday, June 14 at Annual Conference. Scott Shipman of *Just Help One* Disaster Response will have a table at Annual Conference with details about this ministry. Financial Donations can be donated at the mini tubs at the *Just Help One* table. Learn more about this ministry at www.justhelpone.net.



**Fill the Tubs
for Disaster Relief**

Relief Items needed

- Hand towel & Wash cloth
- Travel soap
- Travel Deodorant
- Travel Toothpaste & toothbrush
- Comb
- Travel Size Shampoo & Conditioner
- Travel Size tissues
- Financial donations to *Just Help One*

MN/MT Churches **IA Churches** **SD/ND Churches** **NE Churches**

Guest Speaker: Carolyn Moore



Carolyn Moore will be sharing with us on Friday of Annual Conference. She will share about being filled by the Holy Spirit and entire sanctification (being filled to the uttermost!). Carolyn Moore has served for twenty-five years as a pastor and is ordained in the Global Methodist Church. For five years, she served as an associate pastor where she launched a contemporary service as an outreach for a church in a historic Vaudeville Theater. In 2003, she was appointed to Evans, Georgia, to plant a new church, where she has served as founding and lead pastor for 20 years.

Carolyn was born and raised in Augusta, Georgia, and graduated from the University of Georgia (B.A.– Religion, 1985) and Asbury Theological Seminary (Masters of Divinity, 1998; and Doctor of Ministry, 2018). Her doctoral degree focused on church planting with an emphasis on how women lead spiritually.

In addition to serving as a pastor, Carolyn hosts a podcast and blogs on issues related to holiness, supernatural ministry, and Wesleyan theology at ArtOfHoliness.com. She is the author of four Bible studies (Encounter Jesus, Encounter the Spirit, Encounter the Father and Supernatural, published by Seedbed) and two books (The 19, published by Abingdon; and When Women Lead, published by Zondervan). She has served on various boards and commissions promoting missions, outreach, and the Global Methodist Church.

Carolyn has been joyfully married since 1985 to Steve Moore, a retired public-school teacher and avid student of U.S. History. They have one daughter who is married with two children.

Hotel Information

King and Queen Room blocks are on hold at these Hotels:

The Courtyard Marriott Downtown/Convention Center

Stoney Creek Hotel (down the street from the Convention Center)

King and Queen Room block prices \$109 per night at both Hotels until May 13th.

Click below to make your reservation at the Hotel of your choice.

For Stoney Creek Hotel be sure to enter group code: **UpperMidwestGlob**

Courtyard Marriott

Stoney Creek Hotel

UPPER MIDWEST ANNOUNCEMENTS

Index of Churches in Upper Midwest Conference

Did you know that you can easily find a [list](#) of all of the churches, districts, and Presiding Elders in our Upper Midwest Conference on our website? On the homepage of www.uppermidwestgmc.org you can find a PDF list (also linked below).

We will continue to perfect this list of churches and will be reaching out soon for your help updating and enhancing this list. We continue to work to help us connect with churches all across this new conference. Please feel free to reach out with updates to the current index or with new ideas.

GLOBAL METHODIST CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS



GuideStone has been dedicated to providing and administering employee benefits for the Christian community since 1918. Our mission is to enhance the financial security and resilience for those who serve the Lord. Effective July 1, 2024 GuideStone will be the provider for GMC Retirement Plans, Medical Coverage, and Insurance Solutions.

After the first offered GMC Webinar in April, there was overwhelming interest in learning more about this new offering in our denomination. As part of our commitment to help answer all your questions and equip you with useful information shared during the webinar, you now have access to the Global Methodist Church specific landing page, webinar recording, and the slide deck presented by clicking the buttons below.

[GMC GuideStone Page](#)

[GuideStone Webinar Recording](#)

[Webinar Presentation \(PDF\)](#)

We appreciated your active engagement and the questions raised during the session. To ensure that all inquiries are properly addressed, we are diligently compiling a comprehensive FAQ document with responses to the questions posed during the webinar and anticipate distributing later this week.

We value your feedback and encourage you to reach out to us if you have any additional questions or suggestions at GMChurch@guidestone.org.

Reminder: GuideStone Health Insurance Rates Available for Review

The GM Church has officially released the benefit health insurance rates that go into effect on July 1 and that will remain in place for the next 18 months. One of the benefits of the GuideStone partnership is that local churches

and clergy have access to retirement plans, medical coverage and insurance solutions through an organization whose mission is to enhance financial security and resilience for those who serve the Lord. The GM Church is dedicated to offering benefits that promote the overall wellness of both the GM Church and its clergy, now and in the years to come.

Services and solutions available to local churches through GuideStone, include:

403(b)(9) Church Retirement Plans:

- [Retirement plans](#) with shared Christian values
- Exclusive access to faith-based funds
- Robust educational resources, including print resources and online platforms via desktop and mobile app
- Access to a dedicated GuideStone relationship manager who will be available for telephone appointments, video conferences and email correspondence

Medical Coverage and Insurance Solutions:

- [Health plans](#) that reflect biblical beliefs
- Access to a robust network of top-rated providers
- Personal care coordinators at no additional cost
- Essential coverages, such as life, dental, vision, accident and disability protection

[View Rates Here](#)



Mark Your Calendar!
September 20-26, 2024
San Jose, Costa Rica

[More Information](#)

Global Methodist Store

It is now possible to purchase Global Methodist Merchandise through the NEW Global Methodist Store. All profits will be invested in the Ministerial Training Fund. Visit the newly launched GMC Store to order your approved GMC merchandise NOW!

[Shop Now](#)



MORE INFORMATION

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Important Dates to Remember



June 13-15, 2024

The Upper Midwest Annual Conference

September 20-26, 2024

Global Methodist Church Convening
General Conference


Connect with the Upper Midwest

Connect with the life of the Upper Midwest Conference


- Community Connection
- Calendar
- Directory
- Connectional Funding Giving
- Event Signups

Download the app

GET IT ON Google play AVAILABLE ON THE App Store



After downloading the app, scan the QR code to setup the app



What Is the Church Center App?

Church Center App is a [website](#) and mobile app that you can use to explore, engage, and stay connected with the Upper Midwest Conference.

[Church Center \(iPhone\)](#)

[Church Center \(Android\)](#)

[Learn More about Church Center](#)

Certified Lay Ministry



Beginning on June 1, we will be holding a virtual lay ministry school which will fulfill all the educational requirements for certification. Our 2024 school will be held via ZOOM and a link will be provided prior to each class session. Classes will be one Saturday a month for six months from 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. CDT.

[Learn More](#)



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