



GLOBAL METHODIST CHURCH UPPER MIDWEST CONFERENCE

Monthly Newsletter



We are so excited to announce that as our conference grows, our need for communicating the good things God is doing grows. Starting this month, we will be sending two emails each month with content about our Upper Midwest Global Methodist Conference. Our prayer is that you are informed, inspired, and encouraged to share this news with others.

December 2024 Newsletter Vol. 2

What's In This Issue:

- [Advent Peace](#) – Rev. Ross Reinhiller
- [Christmas Prayers](#) – Prayer Team
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- [Disaster Response Information](#) – Disaster Response Team
- [Book of Doctrine & Disciplines](#)
- [Connectional Funding Giving Address](#)



[Advent Peace](#)

*by Rev. Ross Reinhiller, Upper Midwest Conference
Assistant Superintendent*

“The law will go out from Zion,
the word of the Lord from Jerusalem.
He will judge between the nations
and will settle disputes for many peoples.
They will beat their swords into plowshares
and their spears into pruning hooks.
Nation will not take up sword against nation,
nor will they train for war anymore.”
Isaiah 2:3,4

Happy Advent and Christmas season! Soon we will be consumed with the business of Christmas. The decorations are going up, lights are appearing on the houses, and new seasonal inflatables are waving on the lawns. Thanksgiving's meal is barely settled, and we are planning out the Christmas cookies. So much activity, so much to plan and do.

In the middle of all this Holiday cheer, we remember that this is the season of peace and reconciliation. The busy days are meant as a reminder that the Prince of Peace pierced space and time and dwelled with us. The activity of the world with the endless burdens and weights we carry are laid down at the manger and ultimately at the cross. No more swords and spears, no more war.

For unto us is born a Savior who is Christ the Lord!
Merry Christmas and Peace on Earth!



Christmas Wishes from the Conference
Prayer & Intercession Team

I wonder what Christmas means to a single mother who must care for a couple of children, work every day, never quite get everything done, and never make ends meet. I wonder what Christmas means to Christians in prison because they refused to renounce Christ, and how about children in the lands of war? In the humble birth of Jesus, we find the greatest gift of all!

- "Thanks be unto God for His unspeakable gift." – 2 Corinthians 9:15
- "When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceeding great joy." – Matthew 2:10
- "Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners." – 1 Timothy 1:15
- "Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above." – James 1:17

Among many wonderful Christmas-related poems, I love "In the Bleak Midwinter" by Christina Rossetti, especially the last part: "What can I give Him, poor as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; If I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; Yet what I can give Him: I give Him my heart." So I ask you and myself: what can I give Him?

Let's pray.

Heavenly Father, we cannot find the words to express our "thank You" for sending Your only Son, Jesus, for us. Jesus, You are not just sitting in glory in heaven; you have reached out to us and came as a baby. Your unfailing love is so great that we can never fully know or embrace it. Jesus, I give You my heart. Help me, Lord, that I may take and do my part here on earth for You and Your Kingdom and not miss Your revelation of Your amazing love in my everyday life.

In Jesus' name, I pray. Amen.

Prayer Points for December:

1. Thank God for many blessings for us, our churches, Global Methodist Church, and the world.
2. All churches in our Conference will become praying churches where God dwells.
3. Evangelical Christmas messages for the Christmas season and listeners' open hearts and minds and accept Jesus as their Savior and Lord locally and globally.
4. May the Peace of Christ be in all the places where conflict exists.

"May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in Him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit."

UPPER MIDWEST ANNOUNCEMENTS



[2024 End of Year Financial Update](#)

As we approach the end of 2024, the Upper Midwest has received approximately \$310,000.00 in connectional giving and support.

For the year, we have spent around \$248,000 for our ministries. Giving us a difference of approximately \$62,000.00 for the year. We have much to thank God for!

This year we have been able to hold our Annual Conference, pay our tithe to our South Africa Partnership, send 16 delegates to General Conference in Costa Rica, sent a delegation to South Africa to support their annual conference, financially support disaster relief, continue to resource our leadership which serves our churches, and grow and implement more ministry teams and programs. We appear to be pretty close to our target budget across the board.

The Finance and Administration team will meet in January to review all the budget numbers and make adjustments as necessary to continue to meet the needs of the ministry work of the Upper Midwest Conference of the Global Methodist Church.

Tracie Ludeke
Conference Treasurer



Disaster Response UPDATE

[Disaster Response Information](#)

The Disaster Response Committee of the Upper Midwest Conference has been at work to prepare the way for our best practices in disaster response as a conference. We recognize that this is going to require a change in our culture and expectations from our previous organization. Within the conference we have a few pockets of disaster teams ready to respond to disasters locally in their area. We do not have the infrastructure to send "teams" from the conference to set up camps to respond in most areas. But we do still have a heart for loving our neighbors when disaster happens.

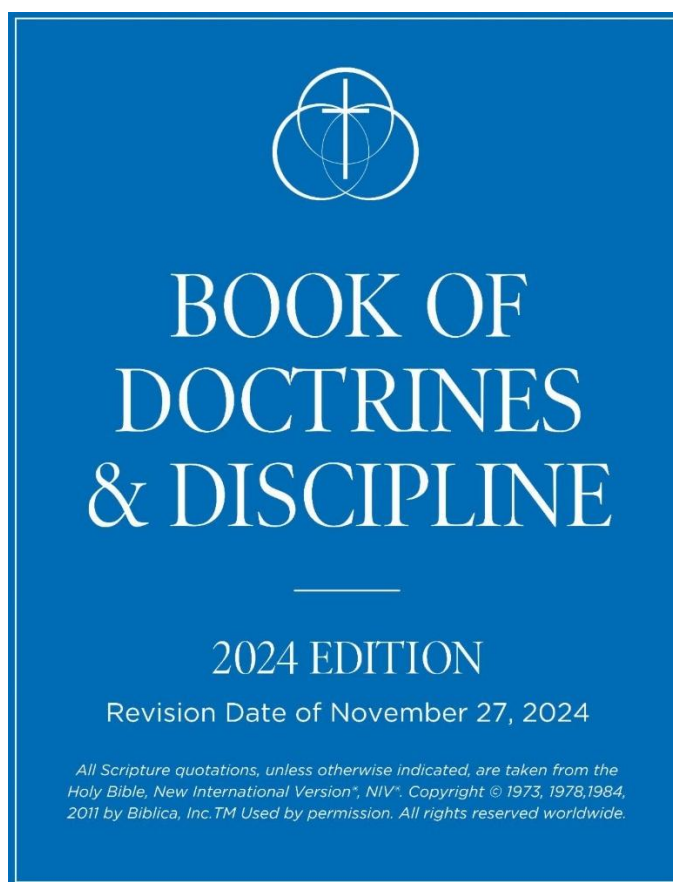
Going forward the Conference will not collect funds for disasters in or outside our conference area. Instead, we are dedicated to seeking partnerships with other disaster organizations that are currently ready to respond.

Read the Full Update Here:

<https://mailchi.mp/uppermidwestgmc/disaster-response-update-373232>

[Read the Full Update](#)

GLOBAL METHODIST CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS



[The Book of Doctrines and Disciplines:](#)
[Final Version Now Available](#)

We are delighted to share that the final version of the Global Methodist Church's Book of Doctrines and Discipline is now available in English on the

Global Methodist Church [website](https://globalmethodist.org/what-we-believe/) (https://globalmethodist.org/what-we-believe/). This foundational document serves as the church's governing polity, offering clear direction and guidance for our congregations as we embrace our mission and future together. A limited number of copies will be published and made available for purchase in the new year. Once they are ready, we will provide details on how to place an order.

Translations Are Underway!

To serve our global community, we are actively translating the Book of Doctrines and Discipline into the official languages of the Global Methodist Church. Producing accurate and high-quality translations is a detailed process that takes time, and we appreciate your patience as we work to make this resource accessible to everyone. Once completed, the translations will be uploaded to the website. Each new translation will be announced on our social media as it becomes available.

Effective Date and Transitional Guidance

Please note that the Book of Doctrines and Discipline will officially take effect on January 1, 2025. Until then, the Transitional Book of Doctrines and Discipline remains in effect and continues to guide our governance. This document is still accessible on our website for reference.

Judicial Practice and Procedures

We are also pleased to announce that the final version of the Judicial Practice and Procedures has been posted to the [website](#). This document, adopted by the General Conference, is now in effect and functions as church law. It complements Part Nine of the Book of Doctrines and Discipline to govern the judicial processes stated therein.

A Heartfelt Thank You

We remain thankful to the Journal Committee for their dedication and hard work on these essential resources. Their tireless efforts reflect the Lord's continued guidance among us and our shared commitment to spreading scriptural holiness around the world.

We invite you to explore these resources on our website and look forward to sharing more updates as we continue this journey together.

You can download the Book of Doctrines & Discipline Here:
<https://globalmethodist.org/what-we-believe/>

[Download Book of Doctrines & Disciplines](#)

NEW ADDRESS FOR FINANCIAL GIVING



SEND CONTRIBUTIONS TO:

**GLOBAL METHODIST CHURCH -
FINANCIALS**



PO BOX 1360 | KING GEORGE, VA 22485

[Connectional Funding Address Update](#)

IMPORTANT UPDATE:

New Mailing Address for Donations and Connectional Funding Payments

Please note our new address for General Church Connectional Funding and mailed-in financial contributions:

Global Methodist Church - Financials

P.O. Box 1360

King George, VA 22485

Thank you for your continued generosity and support in spreading scriptural holiness across the globe!



Bold Witness

Now in conjunction with the Global Methodist Church, we are excited to invite you to share your story - your bold witness of what God's doing in, around, and through you. There are good ministries and exciting events happening all over our conference - and we want you to share them with us so we can spread the good news.

Take a minute or two and fill out this quick form to celebrate something going on in your local congregation, or in another local GM Church in your area. These will be shared in future Upper Midwest Newsletters and with the Global Methodist communications team.

Let's get excited about how God is using us in this season!

Share Your Story Here:

<https://form.jotform.com/242467999461171>

[Share Your Story](https://form.jotform.com/242467999461171)

MORE INFORMATION

Be the First to Know!



Important Dates to Remember



Sign up for our Newsletter

You can subscribe here:

<https://www.uppermidwestgmc.org/newsletter>

[Subscribe Here](#)

****Note:** The Deadline for Newsletter Articles/Info is the 20th of the Month.

December 24, 2024 – January 1, 2025

Upper Midwest Conference Office
Closed for Christmas & New Year

June 13–15, 2025
Annual Conference

“Crossroads” Email Newsletter



Stay up to date on events, articles, and more from Global Methodist Church communications. Click below to subscribe to these

Prayer Update

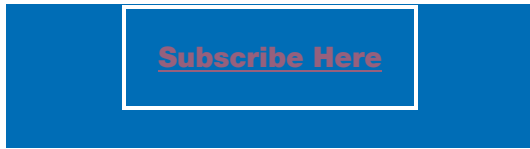


Please find the [Upper Midwest Conference Noon Prayer](#)

weekly emails sharing stories and opportunities from across our new denomination.

You can subscribe here:

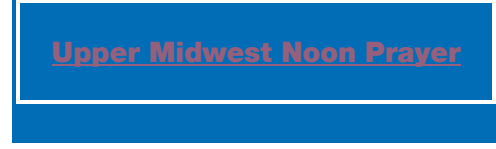
<https://globalmethodist.org/connect/#newsletter>



introduced at the Annual Conference on the Conference website under "Prayer Opportunities."

Join the Noon Prayer here:

<https://www.uppermidwestgmc.org/prayer>



Monthly Prayer Zoom

Meeting: Every 2nd Tuesday at 7:00 PM (CT). Email Christina Sung for the Zoom link: revcsung@gmail.com

Facebook Page



We are excited to announce that we have launched a Facebook Page for our conference. We would love for you to visit, like, follow, and share this page with others. Our Facebook Page will be used to share upcoming events, updates, and ministry highlights from across our states.

YouTube Channel



Check out our new YouTube channel and Subscribe to keep up to date!

Subscribe on YouTube

<https://www.youtube.com/@UpperMidwestConferenceMedia>



Upper Midwest Facebook Page

<https://www.facebook.com/people/Upper-Midwest-Global-Methodist-Church/61560495272933/>

[Upper Midwest](#)

[Facebook Page](#)



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.

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