

# Upper Midwest GMC Newsletter

## Fifth Edition - August 1, 2023

Connecting for passionate worship, extravagant love, and bold witness

### **For Churches Joining the GMC**

A number of questions were raised in our Zoom connection at the beginning of the July about how things will work in the new Global Methodist Church. So, we are dedicating this issue to helping people find answers to these questions.

## **A Reminder to all GMC churches!**

**Please remove all references to the UMC on your social media and websites after disaffiliation!**

## **Connectional Funding & Pastor Benefits**

*By: Jeff Pospicil*

As more and more churches in the Upper Midwest join the Global Methodist Church, I'm starting to receive questions about "apportionment" and the cost of health and pension benefits. I did a video (<https://youtu.be/EhH89Fes5Oc>) on this that goes into detail but here is the short version.

### **Apportionments = Connectional Funding**

Connectional Funding is what the "denominational dues" are called. For those coming from the Dakotas Conference of the United Methodist Church, the formula will look familiar. The formula is:

***Annual Connectional Funding Obligation =  
Last Year's Operating Income x 2%***

If you divide that by twelve, you get the monthly amount you pay in. You will not receive a monthly bill. Currently, the full 2% should be sent to:

Global Methodist Church  
11905 Bowman Dr, Suite 501A  
Fredericksburg, VA 22408

Half of that amount goes to the work of the worldwide denomination. The other half is being set aside for when the Upper Midwest officially becomes a conference...likely later this Fall. After the Upper Midwest becomes a conference, half will still go to Fredericksburg, Virginia but the other half will stay in our region.

### **Health & Pension Benefits**

The general principle is that each church pays for the cost of its own pastor's benefits. There is no system of creatively billing churches to indirectly subsidize certain churches at the expense of other churches. In the video, I give guidance on how to properly handle the payroll side. For Health Insurance, it matters how many people are covered. If no one is covered, the church pays nothing. If just the pastor is covered, the annual amount is \$10,092. If two people are covered, \$19,164. If three or more are covered, \$26,220. The pastor is also responsible for a share plus the cost of any dental or vision coverage. For Pension, assuming the pastor is enrolled, the church

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automatically contributes 5% of the salary (adjusted for housing). The church then matches the pastor's personal contribution up to 5%.

equals roughly 1.5% of the pastor's compensation. The actual amount also depends on the age of the pastor.

There is also Death and Disability Insurance. For those coming from the United Methodist denomination, this amount normally was lumped in with the Pension Direct Bill. In the Global Methodist denomination, it is a separate bill and

You will receive a monthly bill for your pastor's benefits. Billing is currently a little slow because of the large number of churches and pastors joining the Global Methodist Church at this time but the church will receive the bill via email.

## Information Across The Upper Midwest GMC

By: Val Reinhiller

### New Church Starts

There are at least 4 church starts in **Iowa**.

If you would like locations, please visit with **James Parks** ([jamesp@christchurchdavenport.org](mailto:jamesp@christchurchdavenport.org))

There are two church starts in **South Dakota**: Sioux Falls and Rapid City.

There are two church starts in **Nebraska**: Ogallala and Superior.

**Please be in prayer for these church starts** and other church starts/plants that are in the beginning stages.

Giving for **church starts/plants** - visit with Jeff Pospisil ([jeff.f.pospisil@gmail.com](mailto:jeff.f.pospisil@gmail.com) / 605-630-2897)

Giving for **ethnic ministries** - visit with Jeff Pospisil

The Upper Midwest area encompasses the states of **Iowa, Minnesota, Montana, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota and Wyoming**. Within the Upper Midwest area, there are 140 churches as of August 1.

Information continues to come through [www.Globalmethodist.org](http://www.Globalmethodist.org) , [www.uppermidwestgmc.org](http://www.uppermidwestgmc.org) and the Global Methodist weekly Crossroads Newsletter, [www.globalmethodist.org/connect/](http://www.globalmethodist.org/connect/)

The Global Methodist Church now has 3,100 churches and 3,400 clergy.



More  
Information



Newsletter Submissions  
Contact:  
John or Karen - [kkcar56@gmail.com](mailto:kkcar56@gmail.com)

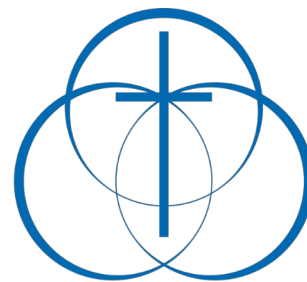
### Check out:

The Upper Midwest GMC  
Dakotas Minnesota GMC Facebook  
GMC Clergy only Facebook  
Friends of the GMC Facebook  
The Global Methodist Church

[uppermidwestgmc.org](http://uppermidwestgmc.org)  
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/767228608030705>  
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/gmcclergy>  
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/globalmethodistchurch>  
<https://globalmethodist.org>

# NE GMC News

Nebraska Global Methodist Movement Newsletter, August, 2023



**GLOBAL**  
**METHODIST CHURCH**



At its June 19, 2023, weekly meeting, the Global Methodist Church's Transitional Leadership Council (TLC) received the Rev. Young Jin Cho as a clergy member in the new denomination and then immediately voted to confer upon him the title *bishop emeritus*, effective July 1, 2023. Cho joins Bishop Emerita Robert Hayes, Jr. and Mike Lowry as the other bishops granted that status.

*Bishop Emeritus Young Jin Cho*

**Bishop  
Emeritus  
Mike Lowry**



**Bishop  
Emeritus  
Robert Hayes Jr.**

All three of these Bishops are retired from the UMC and have joined the Global Methodist Church Movement.

They help with ordinations, have speaking engagements, and are promoters of the Global Methodist Church.

We are grateful for their service!

Both Bishop Mark Webb and Bishop Scott Jones are General Superintendents of the Global Methodist Church. They both have Episcopal roles for this transitional season of the formation of the GMC. They are committed to “help show you can trust the role of Bishop.”

Bishop Webb sees the role of bishop as a guardian of the faith, a vision caster, a teacher of doctrine, an equipper and partner in ministry, and 1st and primary, an evangelist. Their focus is to come alongside Presiding Elders (formerly called a DS) and help Transitional Conference Advisory Teams (TCAT) in the formation of a Provisionary Conference.



**Bishop Scott Jones**

As you can see, we need to **pray daily** for our *Episcopal Leaders*, the *TLC (Transitional Leadership Council*, a 16 member body that is charged with the task of creating the Global Methodist Church with members from the US and around the world), the *TCAT groups (Transitional Conference Advisory Teams* in the various states who help form a provisional annual conference in their area.), and our *local Global Methodist Churches*.



**Bishop Mark Webb**

Bishops Webb and Jones have divided the world into primary Episcopal responsibilities for oversight.

Bishop Webb has the North East, North Central (that’s us), the Western part of US, plus Virginia and Florida. His oversees responsibilities are Europe and Eurasia.

Bishop Jones has the South and the South East. His oversees responsibilities are the Philippines. (See the Facebook post of Bishop Jones’ travels.)

They are overseeing Africa together. They also both lead in Ordination Services in their areas of oversight.







## Called for A Purpose

### By Bishop Mark J. Webb

*You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you so that you might go and bear fruit—fruit that will last—and so that whatever you ask in my name the Father will give you.” – John 15.1*

Just a few weeks before the COVID pandemic shut down the world, my wife, Jodi, and I traveled with a group to England for a Wesley Heritage Tour. Some of the individuals on that trip had also traveled with us to the Holy Land just a few years prior. As I was preparing teaching and devotional times for that England trip, I must admit I was doubting I would experience that same “pilgrimage” experience that I did in the Holy Land. That all changed the day we went to Epworth and visited the rectory where the Wesley family lived.

As we toured that home, I came face to face spiritually with perhaps the most significant event that occurred in that home. On February 9, 1709, an angry mob (that’s a topic for another time) set fire to the rectory where the Wesley family lived. Everyone got out of the house safely, except for five-year-old John. Just as the whole house was about to be consumed by fire, John was rescued through a window by a man standing on the shoulders of another. After the fire, John’s mother, Susanna, believing God saved her young son for a reason, often used the words of Zechariah 3.2 to refer to John – “Is this not a brand plucked from the fire?”

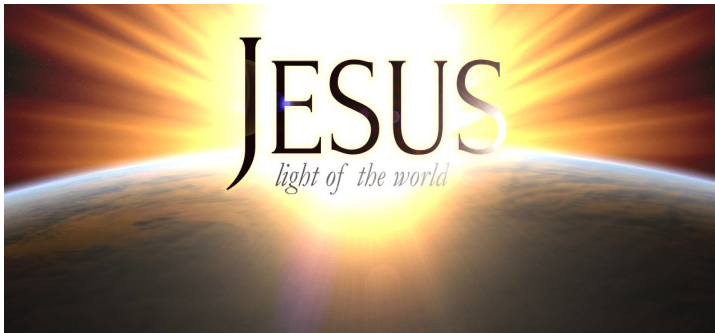
On that February day in Epworth, England, I was reminded of God’s call upon my life in a significant way. The spiritual pilgrimage God had for me was to trust anew the truth that God has chosen and called me for a purpose. God has chosen me to be loved and transformed by Him. God has chosen me to offer my life in response to His love by choosing His way, bearing fruit, and giving witness to the good news of Jesus Christ.

The mission of the Global Methodist Church is to make disciples of Jesus Christ who worship passionately, love extravagantly, and witness boldly. Mission statements can be dangerous, because too often we only print the words instead of radically living into them. As the Global Methodist Church continues to move forward, it will be blessed by God when I, you and everyone who joins this movement understands clearly that we have been called by God for a purpose.

When we trust more fully the depth, width, height, and length of God’s love for us and then go deeper, wider, higher, and longer in our love for God, we become disciples who worship passionately. When we encounter the fullness of God’s redemptive work in Jesus Christ, the undeserved favor of God’s grace bestowed on us, transforming us, we become disciples who love extravagantly. When we experience the fullness of God at work, plucking us from the fire, transforming our lives and offering us new and abundant life, we have no choice but to witness boldly, so that one more person may know that Jesus offers that same reality to them.

We live amid a culture where darkness seems to be winning. The ways of our world are crushing and filled with deceit. People are looking for hope, significance, and truth. Let’s be people who love God deeply, have God’s heart for the least, the last and the lost, and look for every opportunity to be the hands, feet, and voice of Christ within the world. We must be people who proclaim and demonstrate that there’s a different way, a better way.

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There is a light that overcomes darkness, there is a truth that defeats lies, and there is a person who offers healing, hope, peace, significance, and life – His name is Jesus! Let’s meet the world with the love of Jesus. Let’s offer the world the hope of Jesus!

I’m humbled to begin this journey with the Global Methodist Church. God is at work. John Wesley was used by God to renew a church, spark a revival, and spread scriptural holiness across the land. He was “plucked from the fire” for a purpose. My prayer is, “Do it again God! Do it again in me and through me. Do it again in us and through us.”

For those who desire to be a part of the Global Methodist Church but have not yet been able, don’t allow Satan to create doubt and discouragement as you navigate what seem to be impossible barriers. Ask and trust God to do the work of changing hearts and destroying barriers. Don’t be afraid of the fire of your circumstances because our God is a God who rescues us from that fire. In every action and encounter do nothing but demonstrate a heart changed and formed by the grace of God. God has called you for a purpose. Live it boldly and fully every moment of every day – invite others to do the same. Watch God move!

One last thing – don’t forget that Wesley was saved from that fire because one person was willing to let another stand on their shoulders. Thanks be to God for the saints upon whose shoulders we stand in the birthing of this new movement. Let’s invite and welcome others by allowing them to stand on our shoulders.

We need each other if we are going to live the mission and be the people God has called for a purpose. We need each other if we are going to be the people of the Global Methodist Church who partner with God to make disciples of Jesus Christ who worship passionately, love extravagantly, and witness boldly.

I’m grateful to be on this journey with you. I’m praying for you!

Bishop Mark J. Webb *is our episcopal leader for our Upper Midwest Provisional Conference.*

If you would like to learn more about Bishop Mark Webb’s life story, watch YouTube: *Bishop Mark Webb, Global Methodist Church Thursday night live with Dr. Sterling Allen.*

YouTube: *“Witness Boldly: Evangelism Strategies for the Local Church”*

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## Global Methodist Church Flag



Dave Mendyk is shown holding his larger GMC flag. ( 3 X 5 ). He also has a smaller one ( 2 X 3 ). They are two-sided and weather resistant.

Jaimey Bryant, daughter of Brian and Natalie Faust, used the GMC brand information to design these flags.

Contact Dave at his email address: [superdavewesley22@gmail.com](mailto:superdavewesley22@gmail.com) to get the design information and how to order flags.