



GLOBAL METHODIST CHURCH Great Lakes

Dear Chris,

Today (July 1, 2023) is exciting for many reasons...

First, today is the launch day of the Great Lakes Provisional Annual Conference (GL PAC) of the Global Methodist Church (GMC). After many months and hours put in by the Great Lakes TCAT and others, we have formed our local annual conference.

For some, today is your first official day joining the GMC as a local church and/or clergy.

For others, today marks the one-year, seven-month, or just-over-a-month anniversary of those who have already joined us.

Whichever may be the case, welcome home! We are so thrilled to have you with us in the Great Lakes!

Second, below is our welcome packet, a resource to ensure we are all on the same page (literally) as we move forward into our next season.

We have included a lot of important information about who we are, who is involved, connectional funding, our current leadership, and other items.

Please also understand the lists of names are a “snapshot in time.” When we submitted the proposal to go live as an annual conference, there were 156 churches, and now there are over 180 and counting.

We will share information regarding the GL PAC Convening Annual Conference very soon.

If you haven't already, be sure to connect with us via Facebook at [Facebook.com/GreatLakesGMC](https://www.facebook.com/GreatLakesGMC) and check out our website at [GreatLakesGMC.org](https://www.GreatLakesGMC.org).

These are exciting times! Again, welcome home!

Scott Pattison
President Pro Tem
Great Lakes PAC



GLOBAL METHODIST CHURCH

GREAT LAKES CONFERENCE OF THE GLOBAL METHODIST CHURCH

Welcome Home! God is doing a new thing!

Isaiah 43:16-19 The Message

16-19 This is what God says, the God who builds a road right through the ocean, who carves a path through pounding waves, The God who summons horses and chariots and armies— they lie down and then can't get up; they're snuffed out like so many candles: "Forget about what's happened; don't keep going over old history. Be alert, be present. I'm about to do something brand-new. It's bursting out! Don't you see it? There it is! I'm making a road through the desert, rivers in the badlands."

Dear sisters and brothers in Christ!

It is an honor and joy to welcome you to this new expression of Methodism in our “neck of the woods” around the Great Lakes, and throughout the world! Thousands of Methodist clergy and laity from around the world are coming together to form a theologically orthodox Methodist denomination steeped in the great ecumenical and evangelical confessions of the Christian faith. We are making hard and courageous decisions as we become a movement for God, again. We are forming a global church that is a warm hearted, Wesleyan expression of faith dedicated to sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ in Word and in deed.

This letter serves as your welcome letter to the Global Methodist Church, and to your local annual conference, the Great Lakes! This past year, leaders from the four states of Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, and Wisconsin have worked to form our local annual conference. Your congregation is now a part of the Great Lakes Provisional Annual Conference that is comprised of congregations from these four states. Currently, we have over 156 churches which have voted to affiliate with the Global Methodist Church in our geographic area, with many more in the process of disaffiliation and also choosing what their affiliation may be. While we are connected in this mid-west region, we all have had different time frames and paths on this journey. Indiana has had three different opportunities of disaffiliation since July 1, 2022, and that time has come to a close in Indiana. Others just had their first of two disaffiliation chances that will end in December of 2023, and yet others only got one chance this past annual conference season. Some congregations have come unified, and others come as new plants due to “blown up votes.” Some have been living in this “new normal” for close to a year, and others are just beginning this journey as a Global Methodist congregation. We also know some are not yet here but will be by January 1, 2024. Others will join in the years to come. Together our vision is to join God in a journey of bringing new life and the presence of Christ to all people, and to helping each person reflect the character of Christ in a Methodist connection that honors the historic faith delivered.

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Our Mission is to make disciples of Jesus Christ who worship passionately, love extravagantly, and witness boldly.

Great Lakes Global Methodist Church, 700 E. Southway Blvd, Kokomo, IN 46902 , USA

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