



1548 South Hart St Road Vincennes, IN 47591 812-882-2220

Sunday Worship 9:30am

Sunday School Classes 10:45am

Check out the [Church Calendar](#) on our website.



Public Wi-Fi: [communitychurchofvincennes](#) Public Wi-Fi password: [CommunityChurch](#)



by Pastor Darren

A weekly video devotional designed to challenge and encourage believers in their daily walk with the Lord.

Thanks for stopping in and may the Spirit of God be with you as you seek his face and grow in the Spirit.

Click [here](#) to watch this weeks Word.



The Mary Martha's group has a program called Youth Prayer Warriors. Names of youth in our church family are taken by adults who pray for them and encourage them in their faith walk. Suggestions are cards and notes at least monthly, remembering them on birthdays, holidays and special occasions, and praying for them daily.

Adult Prayer Warriors are needed. You may remain anonymous or identify yourself. If you are a current Prayer Warrior, please tell others about this wonderful program. Names will be distributed in late September.

If God is putting on your heart to be a Youth Prayer Warrior, please contact Patty Dreiman at [psdreiman1963@yahoo.com](mailto:psdreiman1963@yahoo.com) or Rose Ann Cox at [hvcox@yahoo.com](mailto:hvcox@yahoo.com)



WONDERFUL WEDNESDAYS WILL BEGIN October 4th!!!

Any adults interested in leading an adult class please contact the church office as soon as possible! Thanks in advance for your willingness to lead!



### Acolyte Volunteer Schedule

September 17: Lee Emma Dellinger & Alivia Flaningam  
September 24: Sophia Magruder & Maddux VanMeter  
October 1: Everett Dellinger & Daniel Mosher

### Prayer & Praise Volunteer Schedule

September 17: Rachel Hayden &

Letha Jane Dellinger  
September 24: Marcy Hays  
October 1: Connie Harrington



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## Donut Ministry Volunteer Schedule

September 17: Flaningam family  
September 24: Larry & Susan Stremming  
October 1: Jim & Dana Wyant



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## Transportation MINISTRY

### Church Bus Ministry

September 17: Driver: Bruce Brown; Chaperone: Bonnie Brown  
September 24: Driver: Ryan Hayden; Chaperone: Dana Wyant

If you would be willing to Drive the Bus or ride the Bus as a Chaperone  
on Sunday mornings, please contact Marcy Hays.



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## Volunteer Nursery Attendant Schedule

September 17: Christine Flaningam  
September 24: Val Goodman  
October 1: Delaney Benock

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# PET BLESSING

c/o The Vincennes Ministerial Association  
2pm Sunday October 1 at Gregg Park  
All Pets and Faiths Are Welcome!



**Mountain Mission Truck will be here the week of October 9 Please have your items dropped off in the Pavilion by Sunday October 8.**



Kids Hope is looking for New Mentors and Prayer Partners for this school year. If you are interested or have any questions, please contact Val Goodman.

Kids Hope USA sent us:

"31 Biblical Virtues to Pray for Your Kid".  
Here are the final 8 Virtues.

24. A SERVANT'S HEART. "God, please help my children develop servants' hearts, that they may serve wholeheartedly, as if they were serving the Lord,

not men” (Eph. 6:7).

25. HOPE. “May the God of hope grant that my children may overflow with hope and hopefulness by the power of the Holy Spirit” (Ro. 15:13).

26. WILLINGNESS AND ABILITY TO WORK. “Teach my children, Lord, to value work and to work at it with all their heart, as working for the Lord, not for men” (Col. 3:23).

27. PASSION FOR GOD. “Lord, please instill in my children a soul that ‘followeth hard after thee’ (Ps. 63:8,KJV), one that clings passionately to you.”

28. SELF-DISCIPLINE. “Father, I pray that my children may acquire a disciplined and prudent life, doing what is right and just and fair” (Prov. 1:3).

29. PRAYERFULNESS. “Grant, Lord, that my children’s lives may be marked by prayerfulness, that they may learn to pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests” (Eph. 6:18).

30. GRATITUDE. “Help my children to live lives that are always overflowing with thankfulness and always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ” (Eph. 5:20, Col. 2:7).

31. A HEART FOR MISSIONS. “ Lord, please help my children to develop a desire to see your glory declared among the nations, your marvelous deeds among all peoples” (Ps. 96:3).



A special thank you from Nancy Landis for all the prayers, food, cards, and friendship over the years. I will miss all of you and hope to visit from time to time.

New address: 7437 Ewbank Court  
Camby, IN 46113

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## GOOD NEWS

### NOTES FROM AFRICA

By Thomas Lambrecht

As I write this, I am in the middle of a three-day meeting in Nairobi, Kenya, with about 40 leaders of African Methodism. Most are United Methodist, while a few have already joined the Global Methodist Church because they were evicted from the UM Church.

The devotion this morning was led by a pastor from the Democratic Republic of Congo. He talked about the passage of Scripture in I Kings 18 when Elijah confronted the prophets of Baal on the top of Mount Carmel. He illustrated from the passage that those who speak prophetically for God are often viewed by people in authority as “the problem.” When Elijah confronted King Ahab, he

addressed Elijah as “you troubler of Israel.” Elijah replied, “I have not made trouble for Israel, but you and your father’s family have. You have abandoned the Lord’s commands and have followed the Baals” (I Kings 18: 16-18).

When people challenge those in authority for speaking or acting contrary to God’s will as outlined in Scripture, the challengers often are put down as the ones causing problems. The story was shared here in the meeting about a pastor who raised questions to the bishop during the annual conference session. The next day, the pastor was removed from his appointment and evicted from the parsonage. At 8 PM the pastor was asking a colleague to borrow his truck because he had to move all his family’s possessions out of the parsonage by midnight and move in with his brother to have a place to live. I turned to Good News president Rob Renfroe, who is also at the meeting with me, and said, “And I thought we had it bad in the U.S.!”

The last Perspective told the stories of an African leader arbitrarily and illegally removed from the Standing Committee on Central Conference Matters and about a U.S. pastor summarily suspended from his church, even though the church’s disaffiliation vote failed. We are grateful for the bishops who have acted with measured wisdom and fairness. Unfortunately, some bishops are increasingly exercising autocratic power in ways never envisioned by the *Book of Discipline*. They have become a law unto themselves. Stories of punishments and persecution are common in Africa, aimed at traditionalists who are not willing to go along with the One Church Plan agenda of their bishops.

### ***From Small Beginnings***

The episode of Elijah on Mount Carmel ended with God bringing rain after three years of drought. God promised Elijah he would bring rain, and Elijah began to pray on the top of Mount Carmel. Periodically, he would send his servant to look for signs of an approaching rain. Time after time, the servant would return, saying, “There is nothing there.” But on the seventh time, the servant reported, “A cloud as small as a man’s hand is rising from the sea” (I Kings 18:41-45). Within a short time, “the sky grew black with clouds, the wind rose, a heavy rain started falling.”

The African leaders here sense the coming of the rain of revival. They believe that, despite the difficulties posed by the ongoing schism in the UM Church, God is bringing spiritual revival to the continent of Africa.

Just over a year ago, the Global Methodist Church officially launched in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). Churches there were not allowed to disaffiliate by the bishop. Instead, over the past several years, two of the four bishops have steadily cast out of the church pastors and lay leaders who attempted to promote a traditionalist position. The good news is that, since launching a year ago, there are now over 160 churches that have been planted in homes and other meeting places in the two episcopal areas in DRC where the outcasts are. God is using the hardships to birth a new church that is unfettered by corruption or abuse of power, focusing on the Gospel, evangelism, and serving others in the name of Christ.

Just last month, for the first time, churches successfully disaffiliated in Africa. During the Kenya-Ethiopia Annual Conference meeting, 58 out of 91 churches in Kenya voted to disaffiliate and join the Global Methodist Church. Sixteen

more that were planted in the last year have also joined, making for 74 total GM churches now in Kenya. More congregations may join them. You can read more about the details here [in the GM Church's blog](#).

The African leaders take great hope from these developments. They believe out of small beginnings – a cloud no larger than the size of man's hand appearing on the horizon – God will bring great revival and rain down his Spirit to quench the spiritual thirst in a dry land.

### ***Neo-colonialism?***

Some progressives and centrists are working very hard to marginalize the voices of Africa. They believe the African delegates to General Conference can be persuaded to support the regionalization plan endorsed by the Connectional Table and the Standing Committee on Central Conference Matters. This plan would isolate the various regions of the church from each other, allowing each region – and most especially the U.S. part of the church – to enact its own agenda, unhindered by input from other regions of the church.

However, there is no support for such regionalization among these African leaders who represent the majority of grass-roots United Methodists. Some African bishops are reportedly withholding all information from their people about the conflict in the church, hoping to keep them in ignorance and thereby direct the course of their annual conference without questions or hindrance from their people. Pastors and lay leaders who share information are penalized, keeping others in fear of similar punishment. All of this occurs outside the prescribed processes of the *Book of Discipline* and contrary to the fair process of church accountability. There is still no way in our *Discipline* to hold such bishops accountable.

Again, despite persecution and hardship, these African leaders are standing firm. They will not compromise the principles of our faith. They see through the attempts of the bishops to manipulate them. They understand that the point of regionalization is to free the U.S. church from hearing or heeding the traditionalist voices of Africa, which now constitutes a majority of the worldwide United Methodist Church. They continue steadfast in their contention that they cannot remain part of a denomination that goes against Scripture by affirming same-sex marriage and the ordination and consecration of non-celibate gays and lesbians as pastors and bishops of the church.

The bishops have prevented churches outside the U.S. from using Par. 2553 for disaffiliation, claiming it only pertains to churches in the U.S. (Churches that have successfully disaffiliated in Bulgaria, Slovakia, Estonia, and Kenya used other strategies to accomplish their goal.) That is why African leaders have submitted petitions to the 2024 General Conference to reinstitute a revised Par. 2553, as well as a streamlined process for annual conference disaffiliation, both of which would apply to conferences and churches outside the U.S.

Not only does the bishops' interpretation fly in the face of the actual language of Par. 2553, but it also represents a resurgent neo-colonialism in the way that many U.S. UM leaders treat United Methodists outside the U.S. and particularly in Africa. Their experience of this resurgent neo-colonialism has often been mentioned by African leaders in the meetings here this week.

Many African delegates have been asking for months for the Commission on

the General Conference to send them their letters of invitation to General Conference, so the delegates may schedule their interviews to obtain a U.S. visa. Despite repeated requests, many delegates have not received the invitation letters. Time is running short, as some U.S. embassies in African countries are now scheduling visa interviews six to nine months from now. Soon, it will be too late for some African delegates to receive their visas. An unusually high number of African delegates are at risk of not being able to attend General Conference. Perhaps, if African delegates cannot be converted to support regionalization, their presence at General Conference can be compromised, forming just another way to reduce the traditionalist voices and votes from Africa.

The African leaders in this meeting are not discouraged. Despite the obstacles, they see the hand of God working here in Africa, bring people to Christ and multiplying concrete expressions of God's love to be experienced by thousands. They believe in the power of prayer and in the ability of a wonder-working God to overcome all barriers to bring about the growth of his kingdom. As diverse parts of the Body of Christ, U.S. Christians could use more of that confidence and faith. Judging by the tenor of this meeting and my previous experiences with these anointed leaders, the African church stands to contribute much to the future fruitfulness of global Methodism.

*Thomas Lambrecht is a United Methodist clergy person  
and vice president of Good News.*

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## Global Methodist Church Now Operating or Organizing in All Fifty U.S. States

By Walter B. Fenton  
September 13, 2023

With the recent authorizations of a transitional district advisory team (TDAT) in Virginia and one covering nine western states (Alaska, Arizona, California, Hawaii, Idaho, Nevada, Oregon, Utah, and Washington), the Global Methodist Church is now operating or organizing in all 50 states in the U.S.



Transitional district advisory teams and transitional advisory conferences teams (TCATs) are composed of clergy and laity who work together to create provisional districts and provisional annual conferences that connect GM local churches in their regions. In the U.S., the GM Church now has [12 operating provisional annual conferences and one provisional district](#). Over the next several months the Church plans to celebrate the launch of four more provisional annual conferences and two provisional districts in the country. Clergy and Laity in the heart of Texas were among some of the first groups to move from the status of a TCAT to becoming an official provisional annual conference of the GM Church. After several months of organizing, the Mid-Texas Provisional Annual Conference commenced operations on November 1, 2022, and then in January of this year held its convening annual conference in Waco, Texas. "Creating an annual conference was not something any of us had done before. It was simultaneously exciting, challenging, and frustrating,"



said the Rev. Dr. Leah Hidde-Gregory, the President Pro Tem of the Mid-Texas Conference, and a member of the GM Church's Transitional Leadership Council. "Working with the GM Church's Transitional Leadership Council we had to figure out everything from onboarding local churches and pastors to properly incorporating the conference in the state of Texas. What helped us move forward was the cooperation we received from The United Methodist Church's Central Texas Annual Conference. The conference created two opportunities for local churches to disaffiliate under fair and reasonable terms." Where UM Church disaffiliation or withdrawal terms were reasonable, TCATs or TDATs were able to gather enough local churches together to help launch provisional conferences or districts. Many of these were initially in the south central and southeastern parts of the U.S. where UM bishops and annual conferences adopted an amicable and orderly process for leaving the denomination. "I feel bad for sisters and brothers in some other UM Church annual conferences where exiting the denomination is nearly impossible," said Hidde-Gregory. "The terms are unduly onerous and expensive, particularly in much of the northeastern and western parts of the country. Given the circumstances, it's no surprise standing-up a GM Church provisional conference or district is taking more time in those areas."

The GM Church has made it a priority to work with local leaders in the U.S. and around the world to create provisional conferences or districts as soon as possible. Over 3,200 local churches have already joined the fledgling denomination, and Church leaders believe more will do so before the end of the year. They believe it is critical to get local churches connected with other congregations and introduced them to local leaders who can answer questions and help them navigate challenges. Six of the twelve U.S. provisional annual conferences have held convening conferences, complete with ordination services. Most of the other conferences have held large gatherings with worship and workshops as they plan for their own convening annual conferences. According to local and general GM Church leaders' attendance at the conferences and gatherings has been strong and enthusiastic.

"The joy I have witnessed at GM Church convening annual conferences, ordination services, and other gatherings have been among the most Holy Spirit filled events I have ever had the privilege of being a part of in all my years of ministry," said Bishop Scott J. Jones. Jones, along, with Bishop Mark J. Webb, are the GM Church's two active bishops. They currently share the responsibility of presiding at all annual conferences in the U.S. and around the world, and they work closely with provisional annual conference leaders, and the TCATs and TDATs that are in the process of organizing conferences and districts. "Our DNA as Methodists is connectional," said Webb. "It has its practical dimensions, but far more importantly it binds us together as the body of Christ. It celebrates and gives life to the way congregations work together to support one another, share resources, and carry out mission and ministry. Despite all the challenges we have faced, I am finding that GM local churches long for authentic connectional. They want to be part of an annual conference or a provisional district, so we're doing all we can to get them connected as soon as possible."

Undoubtedly, the most challenging region for organizing is in the Western U.S. For decades, the UM Church's Western Jurisdiction has experienced steady decline, and it is widely regarded as the denomination's most progressive region. Over the years, many conservative UM members left the denomination

taking a toll on the number of traditionalist local churches in the jurisdiction. Many of those remaining are now seeking to disaffiliate from the UM Church but are confronting some of most difficult disaffiliation terms in the denomination.

The Rev. Mark Maddox, Lead Pastor at Journey Global Methodist Church in Las Vegas, Nevada, and Ms. Kathy Cosner at Silverdale Community Church, in Bremerton, Washington, are co-leaders of the 24-member Western States Transitional District Advisory Team. Stretching from Alaska to Arizona, and Utah to Hawaii, the region is easily the largest and most challenging area where the GM Church is currently organizing. “Creating a GM Church connectional structure in the West poses unique problems,” said Maddox. “But we’re approaching it like climbing one of our great mountains – one step at a time. We have a great team that is realistic about the challenges, but we are also very passionate about seeing the Global Methodist Church flourish in the Western States.” The team meets regularly by video calls, and it has created various sub-committees to complete the necessary work to stand-up a provisional district. Working closely with Bishop Webb, the team’s first goal is to gather at least 30 local churches so it can seek approval to launch a provisional district. Generally, the GM Church’s Transitional Leadership Council requires a minimum of 30 local churches to launch a district and 120 to start a provisional annual conference.

“We want to help local churches and small groups meeting in houses get connected as soon possible, so we’re aiming for provisional district status first,” said Cosner. “We all know the challenges we face, but we also know Jesus’s Great Commission. The Western States are wide open for growth, and we intend to help local churches disaffiliate and join the GMC, plant new ones, and just multiply churches from there. We are confident our brothers and sisters around the country will partner with us as we reintroduce a warm-hearted, Wesleyan expression of the Christian faith in the West!”

To connect with a provisional annual conference or district, click [here](#). And to contact a TCAT or TDAT leader in your area, click [here](#). You can learn more about the Global Methodist Church by exploring its [website](#).

The Rev. Walter Fenton is the Global Methodist Church’s Deputy Connectional Officer.

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## Donation Drive:

SEPTEMBER



### NEW Toddler and Junior Undies

**Drop spots:**

Sunsational Tans all locations,  
Community Church Vincennes, Dot's,  
Wild Rose Boutique,  
Zip n Sip/I♥Icecream, South Knox HS,  
Living Gateway Church,  
Nicole's Restaurant in Bicknell, Monroe City RV

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*Rev. James F. Bitner  
Pastoral Counselor*

*Appointment: call or text 715-581-1981  
email: jfbcounselor@yahoo.com*

*Office: Community Church of Vincennes  
1548 S. Hart Street Rd. Vincennes IN 47591*



**For guides to help you in your  
time of prayer**

[click here](#)

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For online giving click the [Vanco link](#)

You are welcome to mail contributions to the church at:  
1548 S Hart St Rd, Vincennes, IN 47591 Atten: Cindy

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**American Red Cross**

*Give blood.* Help save lives.



**Blood Drive**  
**Community Church of Vincennes**

Pavillion  
1548 South Hart Street Road  
Vincennes, IN 47591

**Tuesday, October 17, 2023**  
**1:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.**

To schedule an appointment, please log on to [RedCrossBlood.org](http://RedCrossBlood.org)  
and enter sponsor code: CUMCVIN or call 1-800-RED CROSS.



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RedCross.org

Fall into giving blood Oct 1 thru 20 get \$15  
Amazon.com Gift Card by email. See  
[rcblood.org/together](http://rcblood.org/together)



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12761 - Online ID: 158671 - Item ID: 7142913 - Qty: 1 of 1 - 30707 - 2023-09-08 08:48:06 - ABCP - 255980

1-800-RED CROSS | 1-800-733-2767 | [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org) | Download the Blood Donor App

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ONLINE WORSHIP SERVICE :

[September 10, 2023 Worship Service](#)

[September 3, 2023 Worship Service](#)

To view past Worship Services and Sermons, go to [Community Church web page.](#)

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e-mail addresses and contact information

**Community Church Office** [office@communitychurchofvincennes.org](mailto:office@communitychurchofvincennes.org)(general)

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