



# AFFILIATION DISCERNMENT COMMITTEE CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

**TRINITY**  
METHODIST CHURCH

# AGENDA

**01 / OPENING COMMENTS**

**02 / TRINITY'S HERITAGE – GUIDING QUESTIONS**

**03 / EVALUATION CRITERIA / OPTIONS**

**05 / INDEPENDENT OVERVIEW**

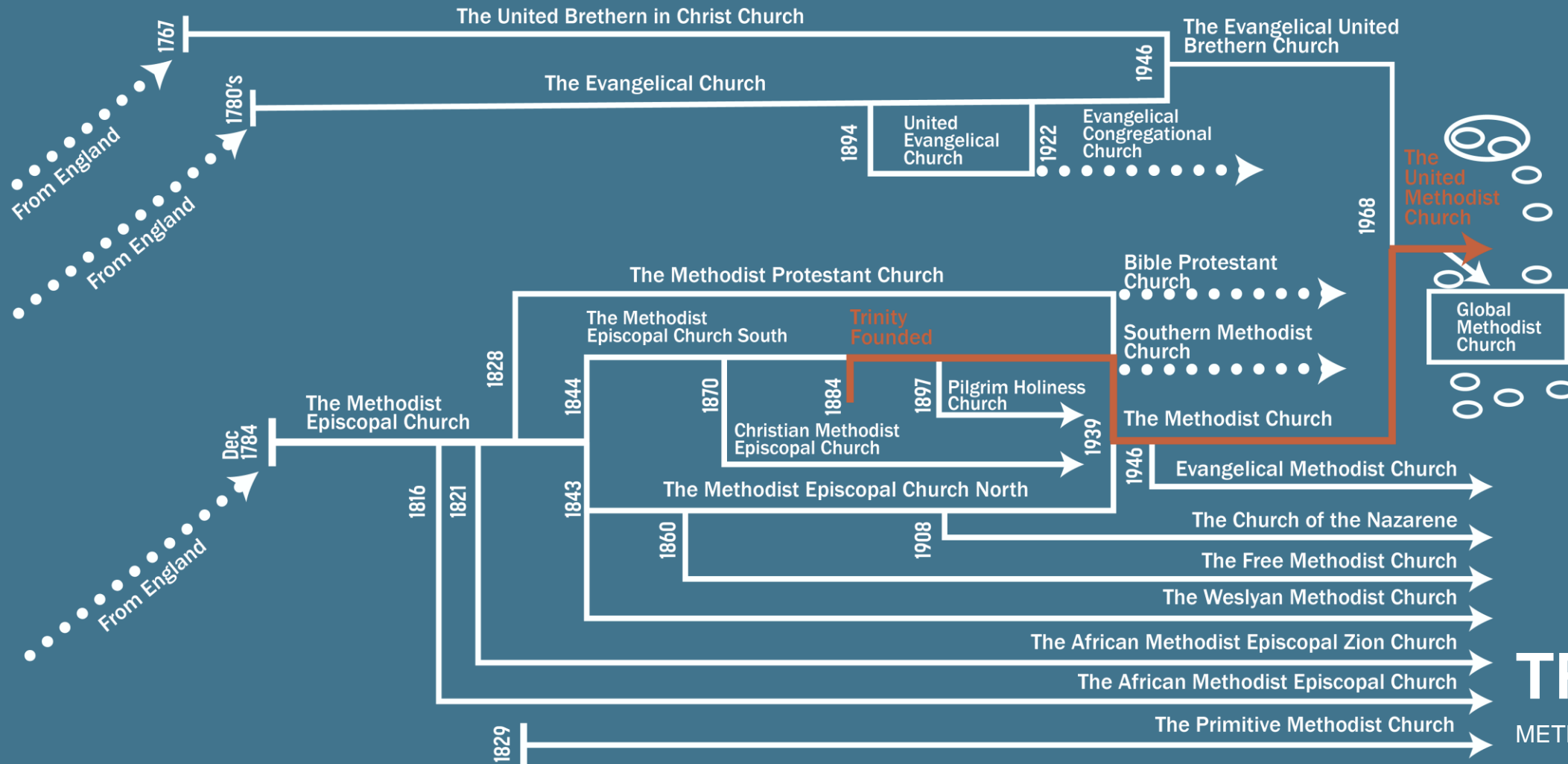
**06 / GMC OVERVIEW**

**07 / DOUG'S THOUGHTS**

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# TRINITY'S METHODIST HERITAGE



**TRINITY**  
METHODIST CHURCH

# GUIDING QUESTIONS

- WHERE IS GOD CALLING US NOW?
- HOW DO WE MAINTAIN TRINITY'S RICH HISTORY AS WESLEYAN METHODIST AND REALIZE CHRIST'S FULL POTENTIAL FOR OUR CHURCH IN MEANINGFUL AND LONG-LASTING WAYS?

# DISCERNMENT FRAMEWORK

- WESLEYAN TRAINED PASTORS – AVAILABILITY
- MAINTAIN TRINITY’S TRADITIONAL WESLEYAN THEOLOGY
- CONNECTION TO THE LOCAL, REGIONAL AND GLOBAL CHURCH / COUPLED WITH LOCAL AUTONOMY
- TRINITY FACILITY OWNERSHIP– NO TRUST CLAUSE
- APPORTIONMENTS (FINANCIAL)

# RECOMMENDED OPTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION

BASED ON THE EVALUATION CRITERIA, 2 OPTIONS ARE RECOMMENDED FOR FURTHER CONSIDERATION:

- REMAINING INDEPENDENT (CURRENT STATUS)
- JOINING THE GLOBAL METHODIST CHURCH (GMC)

**WHICH OPTION BEST ALIGNS WITH OUR 140-YEAR HISTORY?**

# INDEPENDENT OVERVIEW

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- **UMC DISAFFILIATED CHURCHES, WHICH HAVE NOT AFFILIATED, ARE THE CURRENT INDEPENDENT METHODIST CHURCHES.**
- NO HISTORY OF INDEPENDENT METHODIST
- TRINITY, WHILE CURRENTLY NOT AFFILIATED WITH A DENOMINATION, IS:
  - UTILIZING THE GMC FOR PASTOR CREDENTIALS
  - UTILIZING THE GMC'S PASTORAL TRAINING FOR LAY LEADERSHIP TRAINING, CHURCH CAMPS, ETC.



# INDEPENDENT OVERVIEW CONTINUED

- WILL WE HAVE A REPRESENTATIVE OR CONGREGATIONAL FORM OF CHURCH GOVERNANCE? HOW WILL IT BE DECIDED?
- PASTOR SOURCING IS A MAJOR UNKNOWN?
- PASTOR ACCOUNTABILITY?
- NO APPORTIONMENTS, BUT MORE STAFF IS ANTICIPATED
- HOW DO WE STAY CONNECTED BEYOND THE LOCAL CHURCH?

# GLOBAL METHODIST CHURCH OVERVIEW

REV. BEN MCGEHEE



# GLOBAL METHODIST CHURCH

## WHO AM I?

Senior Pastor of Lea Joyner Memorial Methodist Church

Disaffiliated on December 31, 2022

Presiding Elder over the Pelican Area of the Trinity Conference of the Global Methodist Church



# GLOBAL METHODIST CHURCH

The Global Methodist Church began on May 1, 2022. Since then, over 4500 churches have joined and we expect thousands more in the next few years.

Our Convening General Conference will be held September 20-26, 2024 in San Jose, Costa Rica.



GLOBAL  
METHODIST CHURCH

Louisiana is part of the  
Trinity Conference, along  
with Arkansas and  
Eastern Texas.

We have 372 churches  
and 400+ clergy.

We currently have 43  
GMC churches in  
Louisiana, including 7  
new church starts, and  
dozens more that are  
considering joining.

TRINITY  
METHODIST CHURCH



GLOBAL  
METHODIST CHURCH

### **Our Mission:**

To make disciples of Jesus Christ that worship passionately, love extravagantly, and witness boldly.

The GMC has Orthodox theology & holds to traditional Methodist beliefs passed down from John Wesley.

TRINITY  
METHODIST CHURCH



We have a streamlined structure that is less costly and less complicated than other Wesleyan denominations.

We push as many decisions to local churches as possible because disciples are made at the local level.



GLOBAL  
METHODIST CHURCH

Connectional Giving  
(Apportionments) to  
the General Church  
is 1% of income.

Connectional Giving  
to the Trinity  
Conference for  
2024 is 1.75%.

TRINITY  
METHODIST CHURCH





GLOBAL  
METHODIST CHURCH

The GMC does not (and will not ever) have a Trust Clause.

Churches who join the GMC are able to leave with minimal fuss.



GLOBAL  
METHODIST CHURCH

Bishops are term-limited.  
Their primary role is to preach, teach, and defend the faith. They also uphold and enforce the order, doctrine and discipline of the church.

Details about elections, terms, and roles will be determined at the Convening General Conference in September 2024.

TRINITY  
METHODIST CHURCH



GMC utilizes ordained clergy and lay pastors in our churches.  
GMC has agreements with numerous seminaries to prepare pastors for our churches.  
Full support of male & female clergy and clergy of color.  
No guaranteed appointment for pastors or guaranteed pastors for churches.



Presiding Elder consults with the local church to determine needs of the church and community.

Potential candidates identified for the church.

Local church meets with the candidates and chooses the one they feel best meets their needs and situation.

Clergy are appointed to indefinite terms.



Connectionalism multiplies the gifts of all churches for the sake of Christ's work in the world. (¶103.8 TBDD)

Wesley believed that the road to holiness was one that we could not travel by ourselves, but rather involves the community of faith at every step along the way. (¶103 TBDD)



GLOBAL  
METHODIST CHURCH

Becoming part of the  
GMC ensures that  
your church will stay  
Methodist.

Becoming part of the  
GMC allows your  
church & clergy to  
access our resources  
and support.

TRINITY  
METHODIST CHURCH

# INDEPENDENT VS GMC COMPARISON

<b>DISCERNMENT FRAMEWORK</b>	<b>Independent</b>	<b>Global Methodist Church</b>
<b>Wesleyan Trained Pastors</b>	UNKNOWN	Yes
<b>Maintain Trinity's Traditional Wesleyan Methodist Theology</b>	UNKNOWN	Yes
<b>Connection to the Local, Regional and Global Church</b>	Local	Local, Regional and Global
<b>Trinity Facility Ownership</b>	Yes	Yes
<b>Apportionments</b>	No / More Staff Anticipated	Yes

# DOUG'S THOUGHTS



# Q AND A

# CONGREGATION'S LEANINGS

# NEXT STEPS

THANK  
YOU