

Conference JOURNAL



GLOBAL
METHODIST CHURCH
EASTERN TEXAS CONFERENCE

2023
ANNUAL
CONFERENCE

July 20-22 | Christ Church | College Station, TX

The STORIES We tell

Annual Conference

July 20-22, 2023 | Christ Church | College Station

Jesus said, “How can I describe the Kingdom of God? What story should I use to illustrate it? It is like a mustard seed planted in the ground. It is the smallest of all seeds, but it becomes the largest of all garden plants; it grows long branches, and birds can make nests in its shade.”

Jesus used many similar stories and illustrations to teach the people as much as they could understand. In fact, in his public ministry he never taught without using parables; but afterward, when he was alone with his disciples, he explained everything to them. — Mark 4:30–34 (NLT)

Leadership

Bishop Scott Jones

General Superintendent
Global Methodist Church

Rev. Jim Welch

President *Pro Tempore*
ETXGMC

Rev. Jason Burnham

Executive Officer
ETXGMC

Rev. Dr. Robert Hayes, Jr.

Bishop Emeritus
Global Methodist Church

Rev. Vivian Kinnear

Operations Officer
ETXGMC



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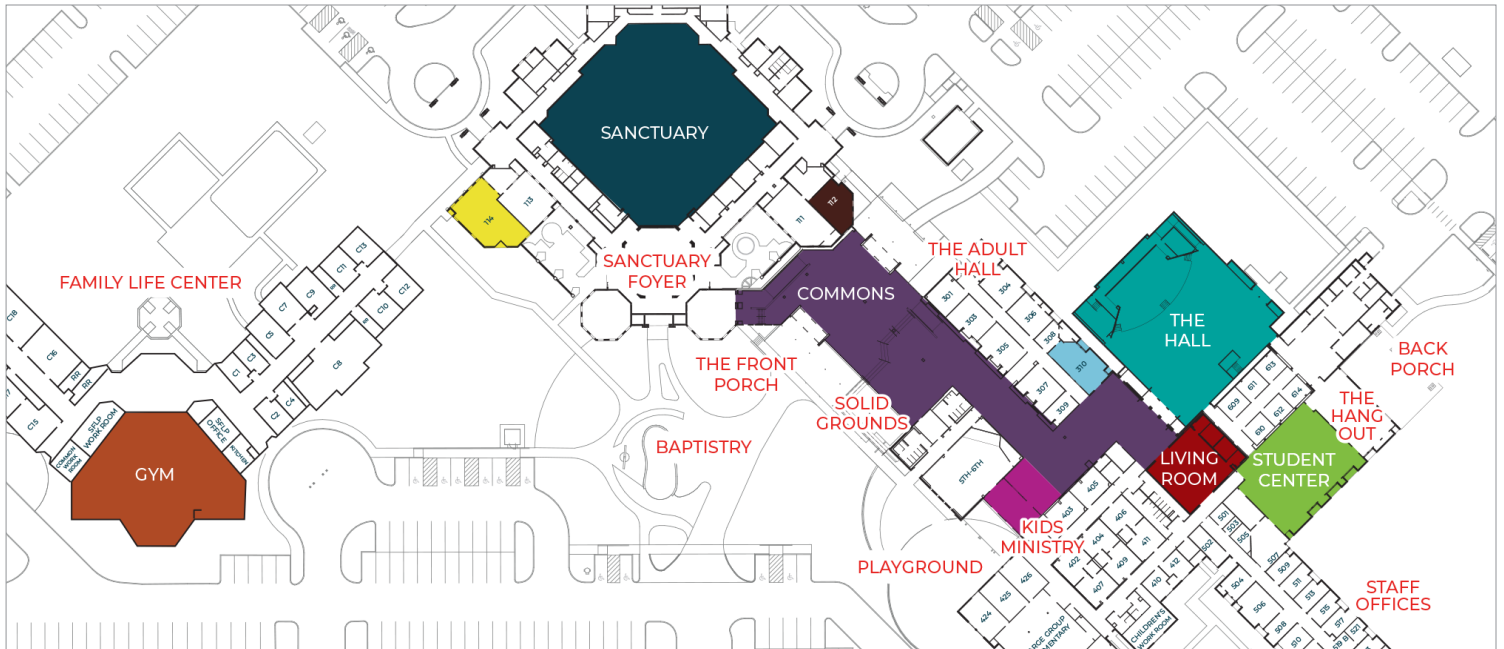


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Location

Christ Church

4201 Texas 6 Frontage Road | College Station, TX 77845



KEY

- SANCTUARY:**
 All Thursday & Friday worship services; Morning Devotional; Workshop;
 Ministry Session, Ordination Service
- THE HALL:**
 Clergy Session; Workshop; Overflow Worship
- THE COMMONS:**
 Registration; Overflow Worship, Exhibitors
- THE GYM:**
 Overflow Worship; Workshop; Lunch
- Rm S114:**
 Presiding Elders Meeting
- STUDENT CENTER:**
 Ordinands Gathering Space (before service),
 Workshop
- KIDS MINISTRY:**
 Childcare Check-In
- Rm S112:**
 Robe Drop-Off for Ordinands;
 Youth Check-in
- LIVING ROOM:**
 Seedbed Bookstore; Exhibitors
- Rm 310:**
 Prayer Room

Daily Schedule



Thursday, July 20

- 9:30 a.m. Presiding Elders meeting | S114
- 12:30 p.m. Ordinand Check-In | Commons
- 1:00 p.m. Ordinand Preparation | Sanctuary
- 1:00 p.m. General Check-In | Commons (Robes to S112)
- 3:00 p.m. Clergy Session | The Hall
- 3:00 p.m. Clergy Spouse Meeting | Student Center
- 5:00 p.m. Opening Worship | Sanctuary
- 6:15 p.m. Under 40 Clergy Dinner | S114
- 6:15 p.m. Youth Pizza Party | The Hang Out – Back Porch

Friday, July 21

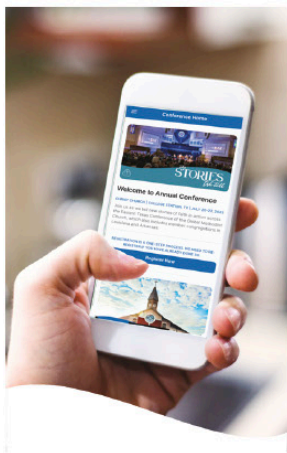
- 7:00 a.m. General Check-In & Fellowship | Commons
- 8:00 a.m. Elementary Activities | Kids' Ministry Areas
- 8:30 a.m. Morning Devotional | Sanctuary
- 9:00 a.m. Break
- 9:15 a.m. Ministry Session | Sanctuary
- 12:00 p.m. Lunch for All | Gym, The Hall, Commons
- 12:00 p.m. NexGen Ministries Luncheon | 5th–6th Kids' Area
- 12:00 p.m. Celebration Women's Luncheon | Student Center
- 12:00 p.m. Clergywomen Bands Luncheon | Student Center
- 12:00 p.m. Men's Clergy Bands Luncheon | Rooms S113-S114
- 2:00 p.m. Elementary Free Time | Kids' Ministry Area
- 2:00 p.m. Youth Activities | S111-S112
- 2:00 p.m. Workshop Session #1 | *see descriptions pgs. 15-18*
- 3:15 p.m. Transfer to Next Workshop
- 3:30 p.m. Workshop Session #2 | *see descriptions pgs. 15-18*
- 5:00 p.m. Dismiss for dinner (on your own)
- 7:00 p.m. Evening Worship | Sanctuary
- 9:00 p.m. NexGen After Hours Event | Big Shots Golf

Saturday, July 22

- 8:30 a.m. Ordinand Arrival | Student Center
- 10:00 a.m. Ordination Service | Sanctuary

Mobile App

Get Details On the Go!



Access all the details for Annual Conference on our mobile web app. Scan this QR code using your phone's camera or QR code reader.

No experience with QR codes? No problem. Manually enter this URL into your mobile web browser for access:

<https://etxgmc-annual-conference.glide.page>

Bookmark this site using your phone's browser settings for quick access to information throughout Annual Conference.



MOBILE APP

Sponsored Lunch



Methodist Children's Home
Offering Hope Since 1890

Friday's lunch is being provided compliments of **Methodist Children's Home**. Please help us thank representatives from this valued ministry partner.

Conference Offering

The Eastern Texas Conference is accepting digital, cash and check offerings to help offset the overall cost of Annual Conference. Scan this QR code to make a digital donation.

Cash and checks will be collected by our ushers at each worship service and during our lunch on Friday. Writing a check? Please make checks payable to **CHRIST CHURCH COLLEGE STATION** and enter **ETX** in the memo line.



DIGITAL
DONATION

Hotels

Bryan | College Station, TX

Direct hotel booking links and a link to the hotel tax exempt form are available on the Annual Conference app. Scan the QR code or visit: <https://etxgmc-annual-conference.glidepage>



BRYAN HOTELS

Best Western Premier – Bryan
1920 Austin’s Colony Parkway
Bryan, Texas 77802
T: 855.516.1090

Hyatt House
3064 Wildflower Dr.
Bryan, Texas 77802
T: 979.704.6744

Holiday Inn Express
3041 Plaza Centre Ct
Bryan, TX, 77802
T: 888.428.0930

Tru by Hilton Bryan College Station
1933 Austin Colony Parkway
Bryan, Texas, 77802
T: 979.704.6015

[HOTEL LISTINGS](#)

COLLEGE STATION HOTELS

Best Western Plus Inn & Suites
950 Arrington Rd.
College Station, TX, 77845
T: 979.704.6444

Holiday Inn Express Hotel & Suites
1203 University Drive East
College Station, Texas 77840
T: 833.441.1277

Country Inn & Suites
1010 SW Pkwy. East
College Station, Texas 77840
T: 979.213.6358

Hyatt Place – College Station
1100 University Dr. East
College Station, Texas 77840
T: 844.208.9339

Courtyard by Marriott
3939 State Highway 6 South
College Station, Texas 77845
T: 979.695.8111

Wyndham Garden College Station
2829 Texas Ave. S.
College Station, Texas 77845
T: 888.862.2116

Hawthorn Suites by Wyndham
1010 University Dr. East
College Station, Texas 77840
T: 979.695.9500

Opening Worship

Celebration



Thursday, July 20 | 5:00 p.m.

ENTER INTO THE PRESENCE OF GOD

Prelude | John Markert
Friendswood Methodist Church | Friendswood, TX

Call to Worship* | Stacey King
Feliciana Methodist Church | St. Francisville, LA

Opening Hymn* | *And Are We Yet Alive*

Greeting and Declaration* | Rev. Jim Welch
President Pro Tempore | ETXGMC

Recognition of Transitioning Pastors | Bishop Scott Jones
General Superintendent | GM Church

A Time of Singing* | *Tell Me the Stories of Jesus | I Love to Tell the Story*

Prayer | Rev. John Robert Black
Living Water GMC | Lake Charles, LA

Call for Offering | Rev. Jason Burnham
Executive Officer | ETXGMC

Offertory | *My Story with Blessed Assurance*

Doxology*

HEAR GOD'S HOLY WORD

Reading of the Word* | Rick Stierwald
Saint Bernard Methodist Church | Chalmette, LA

Deborah Todd
Asbury Methodist Church | Baton Rouge, LA

Sermon | Dr. Jessica LaGrone
Transitional Leadership Council Member | GM Church

RESPOND TO THE FATHER'S UNFAILING GRACE

Invitation, Confession, Pardon, and Peace | Rev. Jason Burnham

Great Thanksgiving | Rev. Jim Welch

Lord's Prayer

Closing Hymn* | *And Can It Be*

ENTER INTO GOD'S KINGDOM

Postlude

**Please stand as you are able.*

Revival

Service



Friday, July 21 | 7:00 p.m.

ENTER INTO THE PRESENCE OF GOD

Worship* | *Battle Belongs* | *Raise A Hallelujah*

Opening Prayer | Rev. Clint Wyllie
Kingwood Methodist Church | Kingwood, TX

Worship* | *In Christ Alone*** | *Firm Foundation (He Won't)*

Call for Offering

HEAR GOD'S HOLY WORD

Scripture Reading* **

Jeremiah 1:4-10 | 1 Timothy 4:12 | Rev. Aris Luna
Good Shepherd Church | Cypress, TX

Word Proclaimed | Lexi Hull
The Woodlands Methodist Church | The Woodlands, TX

RESPOND TO THE FATHER'S UNFAILING GRACE

Prayer & Altar Time | Rev. Matt Neely
Good Shepherd Church | Cypress, TX

Closing Worship* | *Do It Again*** | *What A Beautiful Name*** | *Gratitude*

ENTER INTO GOD'S KINGDOM

Benediction | Bishop Bob Hayes
Bishop Emeritus | GM Church

Post-Service Music

Ordination Service



Saturday, July 22 | 10:00 a.m.

ENTER INTO THE PRESENCE OF GOD

Prelude | Choral Concert by Ordination Choir & Instrumentalists

Call to Worship & Invocation* | Rev. Clark Atkins
First Church | Siloam Springs, AR

Opening Prayer* | Rev. Ben McGehee
Lea Joyner Memorial Methodist Church | Monroe, LA

Processional Hymn* | *Glory to God, and Praise and Love*

Reaffirmation of Baptism &
The Common Calling of All Believers* | Bishop Scott Jones
General Superintendent | GM Church
| Bishop Bob Hayes
Bishop Emeritus | GM Church

Apostles Creed* | Rev. Dr. Janice Gilbert
Blueridge Global Methodist Church | Houston, TX

HEAR GOD'S HOLY WORD

*Celtic Alleluia**

Scripture Reading | John 13:1-5 | Rev. Jason Burnham
Executive Officer | ETXGMC

*Celtic Alleluia**

Sermon | *The Knotted Towel* | | Bishop Bob Hayes

RESPOND TO THE FATHER'S UNFAILING GRACE

Ministry of Music | *Holy, Holy, Holy*

(Order of service continued on next page)

**Please stand as you are able.*

Ordination

Service, continued



Presentation of Candidates &
Consents of the People | Bishop Scott Jones

| Rev. Dr. Burt Palmer
Kingwood Methodist Church

General Examination | Bishop Scott Jones and Bishop Bob Hayes

Exhortation & Examination
of Deacons & Elders | Bishop Scott Jones, Bishop Bob Hayes,
and Rev. Dr. Burt Palmer

Ordination | Bishop Scott Jones and Bishop Bob Hayes

Choral Response | *Hallelujah Chorus*

ENTER INTO GOD'S KINGDOM

Pastoral Charge for Ministry | Rev. Jim Welch
President Pro Tempore | ETXGMC

Hymn | *Love Divine All Loves Excelling*

Benediction* | Bishop Scott Jones

Postlude

**Please stand as you are able.*

Preacher

Biographies



OPENING WORSHIP CELEBRATION | THURSDAY, JULY 20 | 5:00 P.M. Rev. Jessica LaGrone

Jessica LaGrone serves as a member of the GMC Transitional Leadership Council and as the Dean of the Chapel at Asbury Theological Seminary in Wilmore, Kentucky. She enjoys mentoring and multiplying as she serves as pastor to a vibrant seminary community. She is an acclaimed teacher, preacher, and author whose engaging communication style endears her to groups throughout the United States. A native of Texas, Jessica previously pastored in churches in the Houston area including eight years at The Woodlands Methodist Church where she served as Pastor of Worship. Jessica's latest book, *Out of Chaos: How God Makes New Things Out of the Broken Pieces of Life*, explores the beauty that God can bring out of the chaotic state of our lives and our world.

Jessica's books and studies have been used in personal and group studies around the world, and include *Namesake*, *Under Wraps*, *Broken and Blessed*, *Set Apart: Holy Habits of Prophets and Kings*, and *The Miracles of Jesus*.

Jessica and her husband, Jim, have two young children, Drew and Kate, and a dog named Bluebell, who is the color of Homemade Vanilla.



REVIVAL SERVICE | FRIDAY, JULY 21 | 7:00 P.M. Lexi Hull, Student Preacher

Lexie Hull is a 17 year-old senior at The Woodlands High School. She is a part of a student leadership team known as Teaching Team at the Woodlands Methodist Church. As a member of this team, Lexie spends time preparing and giving sermons to the youth ministry. Her passion to serve and spend time in community grows daily with her pursuit of the Lord.

Preacher

Biographies



MORNING DEVOTIONAL | FRIDAY, JULY 21 | 8:30 A.M.
Rev. Chappell Temple

Chappell Temple serves as an Elder in the Global Methodist Church. He received his bachelor's degrees from SMU in Dallas, his Master of Divinity from Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary in Massachusetts, and his M.A. and Ph.D. in Religious Studies from Rice University. Subsequently, he has pastored in a variety of settings, including his last appointment at Christ Church Sugar Land, as a missionary in Eastern Europe, as the president of Lon Morris College, and taught at three seminaries — Houston Graduate School of Theology, Perkins School of Theology at SMU (Houston program), and Truett Theological Seminary of Baylor.

He is a member of the Wesleyan Covenant Association Global Assembly and was on the Next Steps working group which developed a WCA proposed Discipline, followed by the three-person writing team for the Global Methodist Church Transitional Book of Doctrine and Discipline.

He is a fellow of the John Wesley Institute and a contributor to *The Faith Once Delivered* produced by the Next Methodism summit.

Chappell and his wife Julie have two adult children and six amazing grandchildren, half of whom live in Katy, Texas, and the other half in the United Kingdom where their parents serve in the Church of England.

Preacher

Biographies



ORDINATION SERVICE | SATURDAY, JULY 22 | 10:00 A.M. Rev. Dr. Bob Hayes, Bishop Emeritus

Dr. Robert E. Hayes, Jr. serves as Bishop Emeritus in the Global Methodist Church.

The Global Methodist Church's Transitional Leadership Council (TLC) recently received the Rev. Dr. Robert Hayes, Jr. as a clergy member in the new denomination and then immediately voted to confer upon him the title bishop emeritus.

Hayes also serves as Bishop-in-Residence at The Woodlands Methodist Church, taking a regular preaching rotation in the 8:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Traditional worship services at TWMC. He is also involved in the church community and serves as chaplain to the church's staff.

As someone who comes from a family of ministers and has had his own 40-plus years of ministry, Bishop Hayes is uniquely equipped to advise TWMC's pastors. He witnessed first-hand as the UMC experienced radical changes, from its formation in 1968 and the struggle to integrate black and white churches all the way to how technology has changed the worship experience itself.

"I'm privileged to have spent a generation or two of seeing ministry, and I marvel now because when people show up, they don't carry a Bible," he says. "They open up their iPad, bring their iPhone and read the scripture on the screen." Through all of this evolution, there is one key element that he says has stayed the same and that he would want to emphasize to every minister: "At the end of the day, I don't care how much technology you have," he says. "It's still going to come down to being relational. It's about people, it's about knowing that you and I are human beings and we are made in the image of God and we need to identify with each other. We need to love one another."

Bishop Hayes is married to Delilah (Dee) and has three adult children — Joya, Robert III and Ryan — and two grandchildren.

Workshops



Friday, July 21 | 2:00 + 3:30 p.m.

Each of the four workshops listed here will be offered at 2:00 p.m. and repeated at 3:30 p.m.

WORKSHOP #1 | The Hall
Follow Me: Moving from Spectator to Living the Story of Jesus

PRESENTER
Dr. John Wayne McMann

Discipleship is more than learning about Jesus. What if so much of the turmoil and decline of Christianity in our country is actually related to the systems of discipleship we have created?

We have turned following Jesus into a spectator sport perpetuated by educational programming instead of transformational community that positions disciples to live out their faith. It is time to drop the popcorn and help our people get into the story. Beginning with a biblical and theological framework, Wesleyan discipleship becomes a compelling vision to recapture the heart of Christian formation.

This workshop will provide a re-framing of Wesleyan discipleship for the multiplication of disciple-making leaders and the transformation of our churches. No matter the size of the church or your specific role in your congregation, this workshop will focus on foundational teaching and practical steps to empower your church.

PRESENTER BIO

Dr. John Wayne McMann serves as the Lead Pastor of First Methodist Conroe. Previously he served at Kingwood Methodist and Marvin Methodist. He is a graduate of Asbury Theological Seminary (M.Div) and United Theological Seminary (D.Min). John Wayne and his wife Lauren have three young children.

Workshops

Continued

Friday, July 21 | 2:00 + 3:30 p.m.



WORKSHOP #2 | Student Center Telling Your Church's Story Online

PRESENTERS

Rev. Wendy Heinemann **Rev. Kevin McMachen**
Rev. Enid Henderson **Rev. Russell Martin**

Every church has a powerful story to tell! The question is how do you effectively communicate that story in the digital world. A team of ETX pastors will provide an overview of key digital topics like branding your church, how to get free technology, and leveraging social media, websites, and streaming, all while inspiring you to implement these ideas in your local church. You will leave with some quick tips and resources to learn more.

PRESENTER BIOS

Rev. Wendy Heinemann is a pastor, teacher, and curriculum author. She was educated at Harvard Divinity School and Asbury Theological Seminary. Wendy is currently serving as Pastor of Sweeny Methodist Church but will begin her new appointment at First Methodist Rosenberg on August 1.

Rev. Enid Henderson serves as the Executive Pastor at The Higher Way Church (Jones Memorial). Prior to serving in ministry, Enid was founding owner and Chief Executive Officer of ESH Public Relations & Advertising firm specializing in strategic planning, strategic marketing and communications, graphic and web design, and advertising and public relations.

Rev. Kevin McMachen serves as the Pastor of Caldwell Methodist Church. He graduated from Bauer College of Business at the University of Houston with a degree in management, and certifications in entrepreneurship and digital marketing. Kevin then received his M.Div from Perkins School of Theology.

Rev. Russell Martin has served as the Pastor of Lake Houston Methodist Church since 2020. Prior to serving as a pastor, he spent over 25 years in student ministry. Russell is a certified ministry coach, and is passionate about equipping, encouraging, and empowering people for ministry.

Workshops

Continued

Friday, July 21 | 2:00 + 3:30 p.m.



WORKSHOP #3 | Gym

This is My Story, This is My Song: Telling Your Personal Story

PRESENTER

Dr. Brenda Martin

Just as in Scripture, Methodism has a long historical tradition of telling our stories, or testimonies. In this workshop we will consider how to share our stories from a Christ-centric perspective. What does remembering look like beyond, “such and such happened?” How do we remember our own personal journey while giving attention to God’s Presence and His work? How can we practically and clearly tell our story (written or verbal) in ways that others may also experience God amongst us?

We will take time to pause, remember, writing and sharing to prepare us all —clergy and laity— to practice being His witnesses in the earth. Our stories (testimonies) are an essential aspect of our evangelism and mission today as the Israelites’ liberation; the woman at the well; the women at the empty tomb, Paul at Damascus; or the early believers at Pentecost.

PRESENTER BIO

Dr. Brenda Martin recently began a new role as Executive Pastor at First Methodist Conroe. She previously served in Executive Leadership at Grace Fellowship Church in Katy. Brenda is the founder of The Great Southwest Prayer Center and is an Adjunct Professor at The King’s University.

Workshops

Continued



Friday, July 21 | 2:00 + 3:30 p.m.

WORKSHOP #4 | Sanctuary
How to Cultivate a Culture of Storytelling
for Local Church Awakening

PRESENTER
Rev. J.D. Walt

John David “J.D.” Walt knows the art and calculus of stories and storytelling. In this session he will help leaders (clergy and lay alike) to think through strategies of storytelling from “failure stories” to “miracle stories” and everywhere between in ways that can help raise the temperature of faith in the church and foster a climate of awakening.

PRESENTER BIO

Rev. John David (J.D.) Walt is the Pastor of Gillett Methodist Church in Arkansas, president and sower-in-chief of Seedbed, and author of the popular Wake Up Call daily email and podcast. Formerly the Dean of Chapel at Asbury Theological Seminary, J.D. founded Seedbed in 2012 to begin the work of sowing for a great Awakening.

CLERGY SESSION

Meeting Minutes

Recorded July 20, 2023 | 3:00 p.m.

JULY 2023

BOARD OF MINISTRY

Report

CLERGY TRANSFERS

Since last Conference

Who is transferring clergy credentials from a non-UMC denomination? ¶416

James Blankenship—Elder (AECC)
Earl Griffin, Sr. (CME)
Sangho Lee (Korean Methodist Church)

Who is transferring clergy credentials from the UMC? ¶419

Deacon

Eric Rasmussen

Elder

Clark Atkins
David Barton
Jonathan Beck
Jeremy Bass
Steven Bell
James Benfer
Stephen Berger
John Robert Black
David Bush
Carlton Cross
John Embrey
Bryan Fink
Raul Dominguez Flores

Senior Elder

Chris Blanchard
Thomas Brown
Alexandra Burley
Charles Caldwell
Keefe Cropper
Daniel Jose Hernandez Cruz
Ronald Day
Mark Fleming
Darwood Galaway
Daniel Hannon

Valid Deacon

Valid Elder

Senior Deacon

Donna R. Alberts
Margaret Bellows

Kenneth Graham
Stewart Grant
Robert Hager
James Wesley Hilliard
Jeffrey Jackson
Aubrietta Lynn Jones
Derek Joyce
Charles Keenan
Susan Kent
James Lea
Todd Lovell
Daniel Lumpee
Greg Oberg

David Hicks
Norwood Hingle
Cynthia Hinson
David Kassos
Charles Langford
Robert Marble
William Moon III
Paul Quiggins

Jeffrey Olive
Lamar Clay Oliver
Brent Parker
Byron Putnam
Herschel Richardson Jr.
Mark Sorensen
Rocky Earl Starnes
Jason Sutfin
Linda Tolon
Thomas Toombs, Sr.
Clefton Vaughan
J. D. Walt
Jeffery Warrick
Christopher Winterman
Stephen Yeich

Brian Ridgedell
David Rucker
Sharon Sabom
Michael Scalora
Daniel Usiak
Bruce Wood

Clergy Session Minutes, Continued

BOM CLERGY TRANSFERS, continued

Who are the Certified Lay Ministers (CLM) serving in our Conference? ¶402

None since the last report

Who are the Transitional Local Pastors (TLP) serving in our Conference? ¶419.2b

Lloyd Barnett, Jr.	Timothy McClellan
James Fatic	Randy Reed
Gina Hamlin	Enrique Sanchez
William James	Lyndon Kelley Sharpton
Robert Knowles	James Phillip Smith
Amy Machen	Steven Wilson

ORDINATION

Who are being ordained Deacon (D) in our Conference? ¶409

George Randall Bell	Maria Margarita McCarthy
Patricia Maurine Day	Willie Joe Miller
Pierce Drake II	Chyrelena Peyton
Henry Everitt	Mary Rasch
Deborah Head	Joshua Ray
Daniel Hicks	Joseph Richard
David Hobson	Dale Richardson
Aaron Laird	Luann Riley
Cecil Locke	Darryl Roberts
Tyler Looney	Abby Salazar
Eric Marsh	Mark Swayze
Lisa Mayhugh	Laurie Anne Tuttle

Who are being ordained Elders (D&E) in our Conference? ¶409, 410

Manny Anchondo	Enid Henderson	Fany Quezada-Escobar
Will Andress	Harold Hogan	Kevin Smith
Lloyd Betar	Matthew Hulbert	Wanda L. Smith
Randall Branch	Stephanie Kidd	"Jimmie" Snow
John E. Burchell	Lonnie Landers, Sr.	Charles Tillinghast
Michael Cloud	David Madden	Xavier Torres
David DeWitt	Brenda Martin	Gale Towns
Ronnie Eldridge	Richard McInay	Michael Townsend
Drew Essen	William Hartley McLain	Karen Tyler
Bill Fry	Vitalino Mendez	Douglas Wright, Sr.
Ashley Goad	John Mark Moore	
Frances Guy	Charles Nunnally	
Kathleen Halpin	Dayimi Pimentel Prieto	
Robert Hand	Donald Ray Prince	

Clergy Session Minutes, Continued

ORDINATION, continued

Who are being ordained Elders (E) in our Conference? ¶410

Verronda Flanagan
Deneen Goldsmith
Ellen Kent
Vivian Kinnear
Russell Martin
Christopher McLain
Randall Morris
Charles McAllister Vaughn

Clergy Session Minutes, Continued

Who is transferring credentials from another TCAT or PAC? The PAC stands for the Provisional Annual Conference. Every Annual Conference is a Provisional Annual Conference until the Convening General Conference. So, we would recognize that coming to us is Tommy Stringer. Book of Discipline, the TBDD, simply says that's a moment of recognition as the Board of Ministry handles transfers between, but there's no official Conference action. Now, this one in Paragraph 416 that is in your report is a simple majority vote. It is who is transferring clergy credentials from non-United Methodist Church denominations. But persons who come from a denomination other than United Methodist, who join with us, are James Blankenship, comes from another non-UMC tradition. Earl Griffin, Earl Griffin, Sr. from the CME and Sangho Lee from the Korean Methodist Church. This would require, Bishop, a simple vote of the Clergy Session, to accept these three (3) persons.

Bishop Jones:

If you will approve their becoming a part of this Conference, would you say “yes”.

Any opposed? “NO”. And it's done.

Burt Palmer:

Thank you, Bishop. I will not read all of the names, because they're in the Pre-Conference Report. What I'm going to do is recognize that we have transferring clergy credentials from the United Methodist Church under Paragraph 419, which is to be recognized. Eric Rasmussen. Senior Deacon – Donna R. Alberts and Margaret Bellows. A great group of Elders. I'm not gonna read all those but we need to make the following additions and edits. In your B categories, last names Bs – Jeremy Bass who is serving at First Bryan would be added to that category. On the far-right hand column, you would add Stephen, is it Yeich? And he would be moved up so in the Pre-Conference Report he is listed as a Senior Elder, but he is an Elder. There is no change in the list of Senior Elders. There are no Valid Deacons and there are no Valid Elders. So, Bishop, at this moment, that's a simple moment of recognition.

Clergy Session Minutes, Continued

Bishop Jones:

All these people are so recognized. The next part of our report is those individuals who are going to be ordained Deacon, Deacon and Elders, and Elders within our Conference. Each of these requires a 2/3 vote according to the TBDD. The names have been submitted to you already, are in your Conference Report. There will be one name – Laurie Anne Tuttle – will insert Anne, her middle name so that will be added but that is the group that you have in your Journal.

From your Pre-Conference Report, these adjustments to those persons who are going to be ordained Deacon and Elder. So, these adjustments to your Pre-Conference Report - these will be reflected in what you receive afterwards. First, you would strike the name Kathryn Burchfield, not because we have any problem but is already Ordained a Deacon in February. You'd strike the name Casey Estler who is not able to attend ordination this year. You'd strike the name Gerald Stephen Powley who is unable to attend the ordination service this year. Under the name James Jimmie Snow you would simply strike the name James. Jimmie, it's Jimmie Snow, that is her name. Underneath the name, the last name in that column, it says George R. Wright. It's actually Douglas, so it would be Douglas R. Wright.

Persons who will be ordained Elders at our Conference this year. Respectively, we move through Paragraph 409, 409, 410 and back to 410. Verronda Flanagan, Deneen Goldsmith, Ellen Kent, Vivian Kinnear, Russell Martin, Christopher McLain, Randall Morris (who in your Pre-Conference Journal was listed Deacon and Elder but had been previously ordained a Deacon in February of '23, will be ordained Elder), and then Charles McAllister Vaughn.

Burt Palmer:

Bishop, on behalf of the Board of Ministry, those we've prayed over, those persons to be ordained Deacon, Deacon and Elder, and Elder – I would turn it back to you for a call of the vote.

Clergy Session Minutes, Continued

Bishop Jones:

If you will approve the ordinations of the three (3) categories that you just heard, Deacons, Deacons and Elders, and Elders – would you lift a hand? Down. If you're opposed, lift the hand. Let it be shown in the Minutes that it was a unanimous vote, which exceeds the two-thirds

Respectfully submitted by
Jill Krone
Recording Secretary
Eastern Texas Conference

GUIDELINES

For Our Life Together As a Conference

July 6, 2023

Following the biblical admonition in Hebrews 12:15 and elsewhere, John Wesley early on encouraged his followers to “watch over one another in love.” As the heirs of that tradition, our goal is still to peacefully work together for the common good of all in fulfilling the mission of the church. Within the annual conference, thus, these guidelines are established to spell out how we can best go about our mission while still caring for all and making a bold witness for Christ to the world.

SECTION ONE: ESTABLISHMENT OF THE CONFERENCE

1. The Eastern Texas Conference (hereafter referred to as the “Conference”) is established and operates under the authority of ¶1610 of the *Transitional Book of Doctrines and Discipline of the Global Methodist Church* (2022). It likewise functions as an incorporated organization recognized by the State of Texas and as a part of the global denomination governed by the *Transitional Book of Doctrines and Discipline of the Global Methodist Church* (2022).
2. The structures and organization of the Conference shall be determined in alignment with those of the denomination as a whole. Any discrepancy between the structure and procedures of the Conference and the *Transitional Book of Doctrines and Discipline* shall be resolved in favor of the denominational provisions outlined in that book.
3. The boundaries of the Conference shall be established by the Connectional Council of the Conference in conjunction with the Transitional Leadership Council of the Global Methodist Church. Initially, the Conference shall roughly be composed of congregations within the eastern third of Texas, plus churches in Louisiana, Arkansas and other parts of the region who wish to affiliate with the Conference on a transitional or permanent basis.

SECTION TWO: PROCEDURES OF THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE

1. The Eastern Texas Conference shall meet at such a time and place as determined by the President Pro Tempore and with the presiding Bishop. The Conference shall meet on at least an annual basis for a time of worship, education, inspiration, and conducting necessary Conference business.
2. Membership of the Conference shall consist of an equal number of active clergy and laity, representing each pastoral charge within the Conference. In addition to ordained deacons and elders under appointment, active clergy shall include transitional licensed local pastors and senior clergy as per the provisions outlined in 2.3 below.

GUIDELINES

Continued

SECTION TWO, continued

3. Following the provisions of ¶1416, clergy who have taken senior status shall retain their right to both voice and vote within the Conference if they fulfill either of the following conditions: (a) they are within seven years of the effective date of their aligning with the Global Methodist Church or the end of their last appointment, or (b) they are under appointment by the Conference for at least one-quarter time. Senior clergy not qualifying under the preceding retain voice, but not vote, at the annual conference, and they will not be counted for balancing purposes between clergy and lay delegates.
4. Conference sessions shall generally be conducted using *Roberts Rules of Order*, though whenever possible, the Conference shall attempt to conduct its business by consensus vote. The Conference may also choose to limit debate and speeches in favor or in opposition to a motion at the discretion of the President or chair.
5. These Conference guidelines may be suspended by a two-thirds majority of those present and voting.

SECTION THREE: FINANCIAL PROCEDURES

1. The Finance and Administration Committee shall annually prepare and recommend a Conference budget for the next calendar year.
2. Individual congregations shall calculate their share of the Connectional Funding for both the Conference and the denomination as a whole as per ¶1349.3 by January 30 of each calendar year based on the prior year's local church operating income. The congregation's share shall be no more than 1.5% for the general church, and no more than 5% for the annual conference.

MINISTRY SESSION

Agenda

Friday, July 21 | 9:15 A.M.

Welcome, Opening Prayer, and Call to Order | Bishop Scott Jones | (3)

Election of Recording Secretary | Rev. Jason Burnham | Pastor Jill Krone | (1)

Introductions & Gratitude | Rev. Jason Burnham | (3)

Nominations Report | Rev. Jason Burnham | (3)

President Pro Tem Address | Rev. Jim Welch | (10)

Strategic Planning Presentation Part 1 | Rev. Drew Essen | (10)

Class Meetings | Dr. John Wayne McMann | (10)

NexGen Ministries | Rev. Guy Williams & Rev. Russell Martin | (5)

International Ministries | Rev. Jon Thornsby | (4)

Hispanic + African American Initiatives | Rev. Arturo Cadar & Rev. Kenneth Levingston | (5)

New Church Plants | Dr. John Campbell | (8)

BOM / Historic Questions | Rev. Dr. Burt Palmer | (15)

Pastoral Appointments | Bishop Scott Jones + Rev. Jim Welch | (16)

Strategic Planning Presentation Part 2 | Rev. Drew Essen | (5)

Finance Report / Budget Approval | Rev. Mike Tyson | (10)

Strategic Planning Vote + Next Steps | Rev. Drew Essen | (2)

Episcopal Address | Bishop Scott Jones | (10)

Lunch Instructions, Gratitude | Rev. Jason Burnham | (1)

Methodist Children's Home Presentation | President & CEO, Trey Oakley | (5)

Closing Prayer | Rev. Jason Burnham | (1)

MINISTRY SESSION

Meeting Minutes

Recorded July 21, 2023 | 9:15 a.m.

Bishop Jones:

Called the Ministry Session to order and opened with prayer.

Jason Burnham made the **Motion: that we received Jill Krone as our Recording Secretary for this conference with a second. All those in favor say thank God. Congregational response: Thank God. Jill, you have been duly elected.**

Appreciation was expressed to our host church, Christ Church College Station, Pastor Jerry House, Jr., Janna House, Ashley Starnes and her team. Dlane Maddox was recognized for her help planning Annual Conference and her integral part in the Eastern Texas Conference.

Note: any corrections to the Pre-Conference Journal, any corrections to the reports that are offered today, whether they be editorial or name spelling, please bring that to Jill Krone at her Recording Secretary desk following the Ministry Session so they can be recorded properly.

Nominations and Leadership Report, Page 25, Pre-Conference Journal: Additional representation added for Arkansas and Louisiana. Class structures, of three- and six-year classes according to the Transitional Book of Doctrine and Discipline have been added to all of our Standing Committees. Connection Council has added Lay Leaders for our Annual Conference under the direction of our Pro Tem, Jim Welch. One (1) Lay Leader from the former Texas Annual Conference, one (1) Lay Leader from the former Louisiana Annual Conference and one (1) Lay Leader to-be-named from Arkansas. First Oscar Garza from Texas, and to-be-named Lay Leaders from Louisiana and Arkansas.

(See Nominations & Leadership report on the following pages)

Ministry Meeting Minutes, Continued

2023 EASTERN TEXAS CONFERENCE

NOMINATIONS & LEADERSHIP

Connectional Council | Board of Directors:

The Connectional Council meets for the purpose of communication and coordination of ministry among the boards and committees to implement the priorities established by the annual conference.

Rev. Jim Welch	President <i>Pro Tempore</i>
Rev. Jason Burnham	Executive Officer
Rev. Vivian Kinnear	Operating Officer (voice no vote)
Ms. Sarah Kreutziger	Lay Leader - Louisiana
Mr. Oscar Garza	Lay Leader - Texas
Mr. Carl Brothers	Lay Leader - Arkansas
Rev. Kenneth Levingston	At Large - Texas
Ms. Margi Duncan	At Large - Texas
Rev. Enid Henderson	At Large - Texas
Rev. Ben McGehee	At Large - Louisiana
Rev. Clark Atkins	At Large - Arkansas
Rev. Jeff Warrick	At Large - Arkansas
Rev. Jim Bass	Chair, Administrative Review Committee
Rev. Dr. Burt Palmer	Chair, Board of Ministry
Rev. John Wayne McMann	Chair, Class Meeting
Rev. Heather Sims	Chair, Personnel Committee; Chair, Clergy Bands Task Force
Rev. Dr. Chappell Temple	Chair, Commission on Doctrine
Rev. Dr. Doug Baker	Chair, Committee on Investigation
Rev. Jerry House	Chair, Superintendency Committee
Rev. Artie Cadar	Chair, Evangelical Initiatives
Rev. Mike Tyson	Chair, Finance and Administration
Rev. Jon Thornsbury	Chair, International Ministries
Dr. John Campbell	Chair, New Church Starts
Rev. Tim Turner	Chair, NexGen Ministries Committee
Rev. Drew Essen	Chair, Strategic Planning
Ms. Rhonda Bourgeois	Conference IT Specialist
Ms. Sarah Carter	<i>Ex Officio</i> , Administrative Assistant ETX Conference

Ministry Meeting Minutes, Continued

Nominations, continued

¶612.1 Board of Ministry for the provisional annual conference (Nominated by Bishop/President *Pro Tempore*; AC creates and sets numbers, not more than 1/3 laity)

Charge: Oversees recruiting and credentialing of the clergy and clergy changes of conference relations to further the mission of the GM Church.

The term is 6 years and can be renewed once.

Rev. Dr. Burt Palmer, Chair '26	Rev. Jonathan Bynum, Vice-Chair '29	Rev. Joel McMahon IV, Secretary '26
Rev. Jason Burnham, Executive Officer ETX	Rev. Mariann Rayne '26	Registrar: Rev. John Newsome '26
Mr. Bob Kinnear '26	Rev. Dr. Janice Gilbert '26	Rev. Tim Turner '26
Rev. Susan Kent '26	Rev. Sean Leick '26	
Ms. Tammy Woodard '29	Rev. Leigh Ann Williams '29	Ms. Frankie Watson '29
Rev. Bill Willis (LA) '29	Rev. John Embrey (AR) '29	Rev. Wesley Duncan '29
Rev. Ross Hyde '29	Rev. Ben McGehee (LA) '29	Ms. Sue Sullivan '29

¶612.5 Committee on Investigation (w/alternates due to conflict of interests (President *Pro Tempore* creates, 7 members (quorum), 4 clergy seats, 3 laity seats, not members of BOM)

Charge: Responsible for considering judicial complaints against clergy as set out in Part Eight Judicial Administration of the TBD&D or the BD&D.

All through June 2026; may succeed themselves once; 3-year terms.

Rev. Dr. Doug Baker, Chair	Rev. David Luckert	Rev. Dr. Allison Andrews	Rev. Linda Davis
Mr. David Iglesias – Secretary	Mr. Jerry Atherton	Mr. Brandon Bess	
Alt. Rev. Jeff Gage, Chair	Alt. Rev. Jim Jackson	Alt. Rev. Wade Harman	Alt. Rev. Garry Masterson
Alt. Mr. Kasey Woody – Secretary	Alt. Mr. Philip Shackleford	Alt. Mr. Scott Johnson	

Ministry Meeting Minutes, Continued

Nominations, continued

¶612.6 Administrative Review Committee (Bishop/President Pro Tempore creates, AC/Cabinet elects, 3 clergy members (quorum), 2 alternates not members of BOM or Cabinet)

Charge: Responsible for ensuring that the disciplinary procedures for resolving a substantial administrative complaint are properly followed as required by the Judicial Practices and Procedures and fair process.

All through June 2026; may succeed themselves once; 3-year terms.

Rev. Jim Bass, Chair	Rev. Christi Conway, Secretary	Rev. Joe Hoover (LA)
Alt. Rev. Susan Hageman	Alt. Rev. William Lucas	

¶612.4 Leadership Committee (Nominations) (Bishop/President Pro Tempore creates, AC elects, sets number, equal clergy, and laity seats)

Charge: Responsible for nominating clergy and laity to serve on annual conference committees and boards.

Through June 2026 or June 2029; may not succeed themselves once; 6-year terms.

Rev. Jim Welch, President Pro Tem, Chair	Ex Officio: Executive Officer, Rev. Jason Burnham	Ms. Judy Hannon, Vice Chair '26	Rev. Kathy Abrams (LA), Secretary '29		
Rev. Carmen Rickel '26	Rev. Tommy Earl Burton '26	Rev. John Reasons '26	Rev. Elizabeth Acosta '26	Rev. Robert Childress '29	Rev. Tommy Tombs (AR) '29
Mr. Jason Bass '26	Mr. Scott Johnson '26	Ms. Debra Miller '29	Mr. Larry Chatman '29	Ms. Donna Moody '29	

Ministry Meeting Minutes, Continued

Nominations, continued

¶1612.2 Transitional Superintendency Committee (Nominations and Leadership Development Committee creates, AC sets number, an equal number of clergy and laity)

Charge: Supports the bishop/president pro tempore in the oversight of the spiritual and temporal affairs of the GM Church, especially in the area where the bishop/president pro tempore has residential responsibility.

Through June 2026 or June 2029; may not succeed themselves once; 6-year terms.

Rev. Jerry House, Chair '29	TBD, Vice Chair	TBD, Secretary
President <i>Pro Tem</i> , Rev. Jim Welch (voice but no vote)	Rev. Garry Masterson '26	Mr. Todd Watson '26
Rev. Jeff Powers '26	Mr. John Fry '26	Rev. Christi Conway '26
Rev. Verronda Flanagan '29	Mr. Dan Munoz '29	Ms. Frances Beseda '29
Rev. Randy Hageman '29	Ms. Sara Brenner '29	

¶1612.3 Finance and Administration Committee (Nominations and Leadership Development Committee nominates, AC elects, sets number, equal seats for clergy and laity.)

Charge: Responsible for developing, maintaining, and administering a comprehensive and coordinated plan of fiscal and administrative policies, budgets, procedures, and management services for the annual conference.

Through June 2026 or June 2029; may succeed themselves once; 6-year terms.

Rev. Mike Tyson, Chair '29	Rev. Patrick Evans '29, Vice Chair	Rev. Gerry Giles '29, Secretary
Mr. Norman Neel '26	Mr. Wayne Walker '26	Ms. Margi Duncan '26
Mr. Jim Keller, atty. '29	Ms. Jessica Sorrels '29	Ms. Alice Richardson '26
	BVO: Presiding Elder, TBD, voice no vote. '29	Ms. Michelle DeRouen (LA) '29
BVO: President Pro Tem, Rev. Jim Welch, voice no vote.	BVO: Operating Officer Rev. Vivian Kinnear, voice no vote.	BVO: Treasurer, Rev. Brenda Porter, CPA, voice, no vote.

Ministry Meeting Minutes, Continued

Nominations, continued

Conference Personnel Committee (Other created Article 5 Section 8)

Charge: Responsible for considering the leadership needs of the ETX conference including effectiveness while interpreting the conference's needs; includes annual evaluation of each paid staff member, developing job descriptions and titles for paid and volunteer staff, recommending salaries to the Connectional Council and Conference, recommending to the Connectional Council personnel policies and procedures as well as an annual budget.

Rev. Heather Sims, Chair	Rev. Jerry House	Rev. Kenneth Levingston
Ms. Sarah Kreutziger (LA)	Mr. Oscar Garza (TX)	Mr. Carl Brothers (AR)
BVO, Chair of Finance & Administration Committee, Rev. Mike Tyson	BVO, Member, Finance & Administration Committee, Ms. Michelle DeRouen	

NexGen Ministries: (Other created Article 5 Section 8)

Charge: The NexGen Team supports ministries within the Conference targeted at the “next generation” (age 0 to about 30) and acts as advocates for the full involvement of young people in the Church. Further, this team equips churches in the Conference for ministry to young people and their families. This team also coordinates NexGen ministry support and discipleship opportunities within the Conference.

Rev. Tim Turner, Chair	Rev. Bryan Harkness	Rev. Adam Moore (LA)
Rev. Russell Martin	Rev. Tommy Earl Burton	Rev. Kyle Abshire
Ms. Megan Findley	Rev. Amy Walker	Rev. Jacob Joiner
Ms. Anna Metcalf	Ms. Lairen Glenn	Rev. Guy Williams
Rev. Doug Wintermute	Rev. Manny Anchondo (AR)	Rev. Cameron Supak

New Church Starts (Other created Article 5 Section 8)

Charge: The New Church Starts Team is tasked with equipping local clergy and laity to form into new GMC communities. These communities may be formed from the ground up by laity and planters, birthed from existing churches as additional campuses, or targeted in communities of need by the conference. We aim to share the valuable resources of the conference with new starts through prayer, grants, planning advice, and shared knowledge.

Dr. John Campbell, Chair	Rev. David Goran	Rev. Matt Neely
Ex Officio Rev. Jason Burnham	Rev. Stephen Goldsmith	Ms. Deborah Todd (LA)
Rev. Jeff Olive	Mr. Ed Holton (LA)	

Ministry Meeting Minutes, Continued

Nominations, continued

Hispanic and African American Evangelistic Initiatives (Other created Article 5 Section 8)

Charge: A group of clergy and lay members who will meet quarterly to discuss mission field strategies, ministry funding, shared resources, and local church support to meet the needs of Hispanic and African American communities in the Eastern Texas Conference of the Global Methodist Church. Our committee will be a resource to the Hispanic and African American ministries, congregations, clergy, and staff of the Eastern Texas Conference of the Global Methodist Church.

Rev. Artie Cadar, Chair	Rev. Kenneth Levingston, Vice Chair	Ms. Anna Vargas
Rev. Emigdio Rosales	Rev. Frank Acosta	Rev. Linda Davis
Rev. Stephen Goldsmith	Rev. Dr. Janice Gilbert	Dr. Audrey Sanders
Ms. Margi Duncan		

International Ministries (Other created Article 5 Section 8)

Charge: Our charge is to be a resource that helps equip local churches for engagement in international ministry. We will aid local churches in forming connections with other GMC churches as they seek to participate in effective international ministry. We will also seek to foster an ongoing partnership with other international conferences to work in collaborative ministry.

Rev. Jon Thornsby, Chair	Rev. Tony McCollum	Rev. Clint Wyllie
Ms. Marla Gregg	Mr. Jason Samford	Rev. Jim Benfer (AR)
Rev. Karen Tyler	Dr. Ashley Goad (LA)	Terry Lindsey (LA)

Class Meetings (Other created Article 5 Section 8)

Rev. Dr. John Wayne McMann, Chair	Rev. John Thomas	Rev. Dan Conway
Rev. Zach Anderson	Ms. Rhonda Bourgeois	Rev. Roger Clayton
Rev. Marc Donaldson		

Conference Commission on Doctrine (Other created Article 5 Section 8)

Rev. Dr. Chappell Temple, Chair	Rev. Richard Heyduck	Rev. Dr. Sterling Allen
Rev. Cabe Matthews	Rev. Dr. Doug Baker	Rev. Woody Hingle (LA)

Ministry Meeting Minutes, Continued

Nominations & Leadership, continued

Clergy Bands Task Force (Other created Article 5 Section 8)

Charge: Our Task Force exists to encourage, support, and resource ETXGMC Clergy as they form life-giving connections with other clergypersons in small, same-gender, accountability groups.

Rev. Heather Sims, Chair	Rev. Sam McRae	Rev. Dr. Marc Donaldson
Rev. Jon Thornsbury	Rev. Jeremy Bass	Rev. Dr. Keith Tilley
Rev. Jason Huffman	Rev. Wendy Heinemann	Rev. Kevin Kissel

Strategic Planning Team (Other created Article 5 Section 8)

Rev. Drew Essen, Chair	BVO: President Pro Tempore, Rev. Jim Welch	BVO: Executive Officer, Rev. Jason Burnham
Rev. Carol Bruse	Rev. Wendy Heinemann	Mr. Greg Crisp
Mr. Mike Sims	Rev. Enid Henderson	Rev. Dario Vargas

Conference Staff

Rev. Jim Welch, President *Pro Tempore*

Rev. Jason Burnham, Executive Officer

Rev. Vivian Kinnear, Operations Officer

Rev. Brenda Porter, CPA, Treasurer, Treasurer@etxgmc.org

Ms. Sarah Carter, Administrative Assistant, Connect@etxgmc.org

Ms. Dlane Mattox, Event Coordinator (volunteer), Events@etxgmc.org

Ms. Rhonda Bourgeois, IT Director (volunteer), Rbourgeois@globalmethodist.org

Rev. John Newsome, Registrar/Reviewer (volunteer), Registrar@etxgmc.org

Rev. Howard Huhn, Communications (volunteer), Communications@etxgmc.org

Rev. Mike Tyson, (volunteer) Benefits@etxgmc.org

Jim Keller, Esq. (volunteer), Legal@etxgmc.org

Ministry Meeting Minutes, Continued

Leadership, continued

Area & Circuit Elders

AREA	AREA ELDER	CIRCUIT ELDER (Senior Pastors)	CIRCUIT ELDER (Associate Pastors)
BRAZOS	Rev. Polly Standing	Rev. Rick Sitton Rev. John Reasons Rev. Jim Jackson Rev. Kevin McMachen	Rev. Leigh-Anne Williams Rev. Dario Vargas Rev. Daniel Lumpee
SAM HOUSTON	Rev. Kenneth Levingston	Rev. Heather Sims Rev. John Stephenson Rev. Jim Flagg	
LAKES	Rev. Nick Sholars Rev. David Brasher	Rev. TBD Rev. Carmen Rickel Rev. Patrick Evans Rev. Michael Peschke	Rev. Dr. Marc Donaldson
PELICAN	Rev. Ben McGehee	Rev. Lamar Oliver Rev. Chris Blanchard	Rev. Dr. Ashley Goad
COASTAL PLAINS	Rev. Dr. Chappell Temple	Rev. Jason Smith Rev. David Dorn Rev. Dr. Janice Gilbert	Rev. Megan Byers Rev. Howard Huhn
PINEY WOODS	Rev. Brad McKenzie	Rev. Tim Turner Rev. Malcom Monroe Rev. Jason Huffman	Rev. Megan Byers
SABINE	Rev. Carol Bruse	Rev. Mark Bunch Rev. Guy Williams Rev. Kenn Munn Rev. Kevin Kissel	Rev. Howard Huhn
RED RIVER	Rev. Nick Sholars Rev. David Brasher	Rev. Kevin Otto Rev. Tommy Earl Burton Rev. Keith Tilley	No Associates
ARKANSAS	Rev. Jeff Warrick	Rev. Bob Hager Rev. Bryan Fink Rev. Clefton Vaughan Rev. Carlton Cross Rev. David Bush	Rev. Dr. Ashley Goad
	Rev. Clark Atkins	Rev. Kathryn Burchfield Rev. John Embrey Rev. Clark Atkins Rev. David Kassos Rev. Keenan Williams	
CONFERENCE		Rev. Jim Welch Rev. Jason Burnham Rev. Vivian Kinnear Rev. Artie Cadar	

Ministry Meeting Minutes, Continued

Jason Burnham:

Would you like to vote on the nomination slate? All right, all those in favor, would you say aye? It is affirmed and we will proceed with the Pro Tem Report.

Jim Welch:

President Pro-Tem Address

I've asked Vivian and Jason to stand up with me during this Pro Tem report because we are indeed a team that works together. It's been less than a year that we've been doing this and here we are in our second Conference - past the 1st Annual Conference, past the Convening Conference - gathered together with over what 1200 people here in worship and representing churches from three different states, three different Annual Conferences that have come together to form the Eastern Texas Conference. Our collaboration together, Jason and Vivian, means that during this Pro-tem report, it will be given by all of us. Mary Oliver has a compilation of poetry called *Devotions*. I want to share with you a poem, up first, called *Storage*. You'll see a picture to the right. I hesitate to tell you that— that's my garage. And I also tell you it's only part of my garage. Not all of it. I'd like to say that my spiritual life is more organized and less cluttered than that, but sometimes the Lord corrects me and clears that out too. But that's kind of what our lives look like, is it not, occasionally?

Mary Oliver's poem, *Storage*. One of the things that strikes me about our life together in the Global Methodist Church is that we have been in the business over the past months, discarding things. Getting rid of things that divert our attention from a primary focus to which we are called. That primary focus is on Jesus, who calls us to worship with passion as we did last night and this morning. It calls us to a bold witness. And to service rooted in an extravagant love, with which we ourselves offer love. We are called today by Christ, to allow the Holy Spirit to burn away that which clutters our spiritual lives. And to allow a focus on that, which is essential, that we are called to by our Lord. I pray we will continue to burn away those things that are on unimportant and focus on that which gathers us together with such passion and commitment, a devotion to Jesus, and to the Lord's Kingdom.

[VIDEO: The Stories We Tell - Pastor Enrique Sanchez, Hispanic Church meeting on The Woodlands Methodist Church property.](#)

Jason Burnham:

Boynton Methodist Church's story. Wheelock Methodist Church's story.

Ministry Session Minutes, Continued

Vivian Kinnear:

We are called to tell bold stories. Six months ago - 245 churches. In Texas - 235 had joined the Eastern Texas Conference. In Louisiana, ten (10). In six months, Texas added twenty-six (26) more churches. The churches in Louisiana more than doubled, with twenty-two (22) joining. Arkansas decided they wanted to join us and brought, to-date, forty-six (46) more churches. In six months, God increased our Eastern Texas Conference connection by 38%. We boldly stand today at 339 churches. More churches, especially in Arkansas and Louisiana, are in the process of discerning where God is calling them to connect.

Drew Essen:

Conference's Strategic Planning Team Report, Page 33, Pre-Conference Journal
Last November, Jim and Jason called together and commissioned the Strategic Planning Team of the Conference charged at examining how we were to approach this vision. How would we begin to give language to this vision? How would we begin to define that vision? We sent out over 2000 surveys, had over thirty-one (31) one-on-one interviews. Asked these questions - What do we want this conference to look like? Where do we feel like the Holy Spirit is leading us? How do we begin to capture the energy that the Spirit is moving among us and how do we bring it all together? From our surveys and interviews, we heard that we wanted to be a Christ-centered, lay-led, truly global church made-up of every tribe, every tongue and every nation. We heard that we want to return to our deep Wesleyan roots of intentional discipleship and risk-taking evangelism. We heard that we wanted to be a Conference that raises up the next generation of Methodist leaders, both clergy and lay. We heard there was a desire to return decision making abilities and powers to the local congregations and leaders that make up our Conference. And finally, we heard overwhelmingly from you, that we wanted to invest our time, our talent and our treasure, into a broken world that so desperately needs the love and grace of Jesus Christ. So, in this initial report we wanted to present guidelines rather than goals as we build towards our shared future together. We wanted to capture and affirm our mindset before we pursued a model. In our study, we heard that defining the roles was important, defining the roles between members and churches and the Conference was an essential step that we needed to take to gain clarity in who we are together. So, this led to our strategic framework. The framework is threefold and very simple, as we talked about this morning. It's threefold, and it focuses on scripturally and practically defining the roles within our Conference. Member's disciple. The first tenant of our strategic framework together is that Members disciple. ([VIDEO: The Stories We Tell: Buck Thronton, Winnie](#)). The second tenant of our framework is that churches multiply. The Conference's job is to equip. So, in review: members disciple; churches multiply; and the Conference equips.

John Wayne McMann:

Class Meetings Report, Page 68, Pre-Conference Journal

For too long in our Methodist connection, discipleship has become a category that encapsulates spiritual formation, education, and program ministry, with very few defining characteristics or Wesleyan distinctives.

Ministry Session Minutes, Continued

Zach Anderson:

What is a disciple? What is discipleship? And specifically, what is discipleship to Jesus Christ? Discipleship to Jesus is a way of living. It's a holistic pursuit of a relationship with a person. A 2-way, give-and-take relationship with the person. That person is Jesus. And this relationship is made possible by the power of the Holy Spirit. This way of life, this relationship undergirds all aspects of your life, and as such, discipleship will look different in different contexts. However, discipleship and the life of the disciple will always be guided by three underlying principles. The life of a disciple is devotional, transformational, missional. A class meeting is a transformational small group of people who meet weekly to give testimony to their life in God and encourage one another in the pursuit of becoming more like Jesus. Or a simple definition I like to use is a support group for sinners.

Roger Clayton:

The majority of people in our Conference do actually know what the class meeting really is. Which means the seminaries worked. 89% of our responses said that they knew what the class meeting was. But the data also showed us that many either didn't see or didn't believe that the class meeting was something that could work in 2023, as it did so long ago with John Wesley and the originators of the Methodist movement. With only 34% of responders claiming that they had a meeting that matched that description of the class meeting within their congregations.

Rhonda Bourgeois:

Class Meetings provide an opportunity for believers to actively pursue becoming more like Christ. These Wesleyan style groups help participants move from simply consuming information to pursuing transformation and building community, spiritual community. [VIDEO: The Stories We Tell: Marvin Methodist Class Meeting](#)

Marc Donaldson:

The Eastern Texas Conference Class Meeting Team will be a catalyst for the implementation of Wesleyan accountability structures across the Conference for the transformation of local congregation. With testimony, training and continuing education, we will equip pastors and congregations to begin class meetings where local members will learn to walk with one another on their journey of faith. This will be accomplished by: #1. Boldly witnessing and giving testimony as often as possible to the power of accountability within congregations to the whole of the Eastern Texas Conference. #2. Offering tangible training to build up both clergy and lay leaders who are well versed in accountability groups in order for them to implement accountability groups within their local setting. #3. Provide ongoing support and resources to the local congregation and the local pastor, no matter where they are in the process of implementation. November 12th -class meeting webinar, main presenter Doctor Kevin Watson.

Guy Williams:

NexGen Ministries Report, Page 65, Pre-Conference Journal

Our team's work is to support churches as we share the Gospel and pass on the faith once delivered to the Saints, to the next generation.

Ministry Session Minutes, Continued

Russell Martin:

Many churches are looking for qualified individuals to step into youth and children's ministries as staff and volunteers. NexGen Ministries is answering the call to equip those leaders in three different ways. First, our NexGen Summit will be held at Livingston Methodist Church August 5th from 10:00 till 2:00. Secondly, offering a youth ministry and Children's Ministry certification through the School of Ministry. And finally, we need a network of workers, pastors and volunteers to share ideas, pray for one another and be in connection. Raising up the next generation of leaders means providing opportunities to serve at local churches alongside our pastors and the great lay people of our conference as ministry interns. We are developing a summer ministry internship program for next summer that will give young people hands-on experience and mentorship so they may discern God's call for their life. We are offering a marriage ministry training and seminar retreat.

Our Conference will put on a summer camp at Lakeview in June 2024.



SCAN ME



NexGen

EASTERN TEXAS CONFERENCE
GLOBAL METHODIST CHURCH



Ministry Session Minutes, Continued

Jon Thornsbury:

International Ministries Report, Page 64, Pre-Conference Journal

It's the team's desire to provide resources to every church in our Conference to assist in partnering with International Ministries as together in partnership, we take the Gospel of Jesus Christ to the world in both word and deed. We see churches partnering in three specific ways: prayer, resources, and personnel. The team, along with the Conference leadership, has begun the process of moving toward the possibility of partnering with the Global Methodist Church Annual Conference outside of the United States. International Ministries Presentation QR code.



International Ministries Committee

Rev. Jon Thornsbury, Chair	Rev. Tony McCollum	Rev. Clint Wyllie
Ms. Marla Gregg	Mr. Jason Samford	Rev. Jim Benfer (AR)
Rev. Karen Tyler	Dr. Ashley Goad (LA)	Terry Lindsey (LA)

 EASTERN TEXAS | 2023 ANNUAL CONFERENCE | GLOBAL METHODIST CHURCH
Rev. Jon Thornsbury | International Ministries Presentation



PRAY GIVE GO



 EASTERN TEXAS | 2023 ANNUAL CONFERENCE | GLOBAL METHODIST CHURCH
Rev. Jon Thornsbury | International Ministries Presentation

Kenneth Levingston:

African American Hispanic Initiatives Report

We do bring our gifts and graces to the church. We ask for the resourcing and the support of the church in the work we are called to do in the life of the church. We ask you to walk with us and journey with us. We are one people, one tribe called together to be who God has called us to be. We ask you to double down with us and understand that we're a church that should look like the body of Christ.

Arturo Cadar:

Greetings and expressions of gratitude from all twenty-two (22) Hispanic pastors of the Eastern Texas Conference, including two (2) Hispanic pastors, one (1) each from Louisiana and Arkansas, and three (3) who will be ordained tomorrow. Retells story: Resurrection Global Methodist Church in Katy.

Jason Smith:

Our church started January 8th with 310 people present on our first Sunday at Katie High School. That next Sunday, February 5th, we all met together in the Katy High School Auditorium with Jim Welch by my side, and we welcomed 335 new members to the church. God's been placing on my heart, we are going to have a Hispanic Ministry. And so, of course, I thought in 5 to 10 years, we're going to have a Hispanic ministry in our church. So, the week after we met here in February, Artie called. Daniel and I just started dreaming right there at lunch. Churches have done this wrong for so many years. We adopt these communities into our churches and then we give them the 1:30 slot, later in the day. And they're not a part of the life of the church. They are of the church if they're not contributing enough to pay for their ministries.

Ministry Session Minutes, Continued

That is the wrong way to look at ministries in our churches. And I sat down across from him, and I said, and I slid this piece of paper across. And on it, it said 'one (1) name, one (1) Church, two (2) languages.' And Daniel nodded, stood up, and we hugged.

Daniel Hernandez:

We are very grateful for this opportunity to share with all of you our experience that not only like a pastor, like a family, like our team leaders and all congregation feel welcoming when we meet with the other congregation. And the second lunch, the second meeting started. So yes, you see we are ready. When? Where? When do you want to join us? I'm like what? Yes, you want to join right now? Come to meet my congregation, with my leaders. And then I'm going to talk to my congregation and my congregation says When? Right now. Okay, I'm going to get it. That accelerates the time and then when we meet together, we enjoy the Anglo congregation. Some only speak in Spanish. Hispanic congregation we have only a little bilingual people and then when they meet, wow. Incredible. They cook. They smile. It was incredible, incredible, incredible. And then we start working together. We feel welcoming.

Arturo Cadar:

Beginning this year, we're going to invest a considerable amount of resources in recruiting and developing Hispanic clergy and lay leaders to programs such as the MDiv program at United Theological Seminary, which is totally offered in Spanish and online, and the Asbury's Latino Center certificate in Theological Studies, also offered in both bilingual and Spanish-only formats.

John Campbell

New Church Plants

Our mission: the New Church Starts Team is tasked with equipping local clergy and laity to form into new GMC communities. We aim to share the valuable resources of this Conference with the new starts through prayer, grants, planning advice and shared knowledge. There are considerations about legal, finance, facilities, communication, marketing, pastors and prayer. No two (2) church starts will be the same but many of these processes are and we share that. We are also calling on the Conference to offer some financial assistance through grants to new churches. Within the budget presented to you, and you will vote on later today, you will see a \$200,000 line item for new church starts. That's roughly 12% of our Conference budget.

Grants can be used for a wide variety of startup costs. We won't be buying large tracts of land with this, but we can help churches get started. The Woodlands Methodist Church has committed to planting new churches and are underway in developing online training modules to equip pastors and laity for planting. It is funded, it is staffed, and it aligns with the goals of our committee. In February, we welcomed the seven new churches.

[VIDEO: The Stories We Tell: Jerry Smith, The Church at Montgomery](#)

Ministry Session Minutes, Continued

Recognizing the new churches and worship communities received into the Conference since February:

- Asbury Church in Baton Rouge, LA; Feliciana, St. Francisville, LA., Pastor Greg Oberg
- Central, Houston, TX, pastor Henry Everett
- The Woodlands, TX en Espanol, Pastor Enrique Sanchez
- Resurrection in Houma, LA, pastor Terry Lindsey
- Resurrection en Espanol, Katy, TX. Pastor Daniel Hernandez
- First Conroe in Texas Woodland Hills campus
- Grace in Winnie, Texas, Pastor Kyle Abshire
- Moss Bluff, LA
- Living Water in Lake Charles, LA., Pastor John Robert Black


Jason Burnham offered a prayer.


Church Planting Committee

- Dr. John Campbell, Chair
- Rev. David Goran
- Rev. Matt Neely
- Rev. Stephen Goldsmith
- Ms. Deborah Todd (LA)
- Mr. Ed Holton (LA)
- Rev. Jeff Olive
- Rev. Jason Burnham (Ex Officio)

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Dr. John Campbell | New Church Plants

Conference Connectional Funding

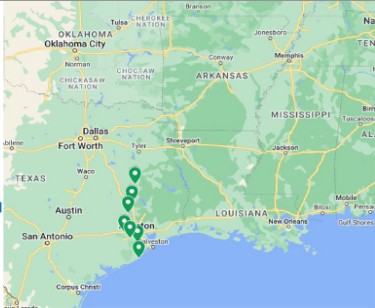



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Church Starts

Recognized February 2023

Redeemer, Manvel, TX
Wesleyan, Crockett, TX
Christ the King, Huntsville, TX
Resurrection, Katy, TX
Trinity, Sugar Land, TX
Brazosport, Lake Jackson, TX
Christ the King, Montgomery, TX (Merged with TWMC)

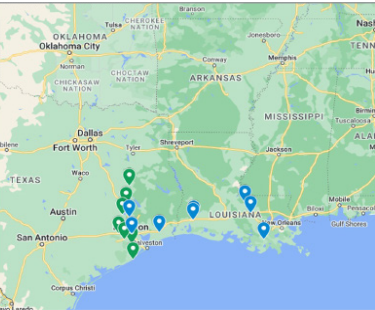



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Church Starts

Recognized July 2023

Asbury, Baton Rouge, LA
Feliciana, St. Francisville, LA
Central, Houston, TX
The Woodlands en Espanol, TX
Resurrección en Espanol, TX
Resurrection, Houma, LA
First Conroe, Woodland Hills Campus, TX
Grace, Winnie, TX
Moss Bluff, LA
Living Water, Lake Charles, LA



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Dr. John Campbell | New Church Plants

Ministry Session Minutes, Continued

Burt Palmer:

Board of Ministry Report, Pages 22-25, Pre-Conference Journal

We want to celebrate the amazing work of those individuals who are Certified Lay Ministers. Ross Hyde is the lead person with our School of Ministry and our Certified Lay Ministers. Tim Turner and Ross have put together what has been endorsed by the Board of Ministry, which will be the School of Ministry to which Russell Martin referred earlier. If you are going to be a layperson - and a Certified Lay Minister, as someone who always remains a laity but is required by the TBDD to receive certification and training - that school will be, which will be the first offered, will be the first week of October and we are talking with Lakeview about being there all week long. Transitional Local Pastors. TLP is a status that exists until the Convening General Conference. Supply Pastors is the other category of individuals, persons who are candidates for ministry and expect to be able to complete the educational requirements within three years to be able to be a Deacon. **Bishop, now, before you, you find the persons who are here for part of the tradition and our story of the historic questions.**

Bishop Jones:

Bishop Jones asked the standing Ordinands the historic questions. Ordinands responded to each. Bishop Jones prayed.

Burt Palmer:

This next year's work, the Board of Ministry is committed to working with the SLP, the CLM's and also each of our Ordinances that still have education required. It is recommended that you go online and download and date for yourself, the version of the download as there's not errata at every single change. Some changes and adjustments. For example, we do not have Lay Supply Pastors. We have Supply Pastor.

Jason Burnham:

Appointments, Pages 52-62, Pre-Conference Journal

(corrected pages inserted beginning on the following page)

Ministry Session Minutes, Continued

JULY 2023

APPOINTMENTS

CIRCUIT	PRESIDING CIRCUIT ELDER	CITY	CHURCH	PASTOR	POSITION	STATUS
ARKANSAS AREA						
Presiding Area Elder: Jeff Warrick						
Central Arkansas	Cross	Cabot	Mt. Tabor	Warrick, Jeff	S	E
Central Arkansas	Cross	Cabot	The Journey	Warrick, Jeff	S	E
Central Arkansas	Cross	Benton	Congo	TBD	S	
Central Arkansas	Cross	Pine Bluff	Pine Bluff	Cross, Carlton	S	E
Central Arkansas	Cross	Mabelvale	Mabelvale	Marble, Robert K	S	E
Central Arkansas	Cross	Mount Olivet	Mount Olivet	TBD	S	
Crowley's Ridge	Hager	Caraway	Caraway	Glass, Allen	S	SP
Crowley's Ridge	Hager	Manila	Manila	Glass, Allen	S	SP
Crowley's Ridge	Hager	Leechville	Leechville	TBD	S	
Grand Prairie	Fink	Gillett	Gillett	Walt, John David	S	E
North Arkansas	Vaughan	Greers Ferry	Holiday Hills	Mobley, Roger	S	
North Arkansas	Vaughan	Searcy	St. Paul	Vaughan, Cleifton	S	E
North Arkansas	Vaughan	Harrison	Bellefonte	Kramer, Susan	S	TLP
North Arkansas	Vaughan	Cotter	Good Shepherd	Snow, Jimmie	S	E
Columbia-Union	Bush	Magnolia	Asbury	Moore, David	S	E
Columbia-Union	Bush	El Dorado	El Dorado Global	Machen, Amy	S	TLP
Columbia-Union	Bush	El Dorado	St. Paul	Rowlan, Randy	S	E
Columbia-Union	Bush	Magnolia	McNeil	Moore, David	S	E
Presiding Area Elder: Clark Atkins						
Northwest	Atkins	Rogers	Bland Chapel	Youngs, Brian	S	E
Northwest	Atkins	Siloam Springs	Siloam Springs	Atkins, Clark	S	E
Northwest	Atkins	Siloam Springs	Siloam Springs	Anchondo, Manny	A	E
Northwest	Atkins	Siloam Springs	Siloam Springs	Blankenship, James Robert	A	E
Ouachita Valley	Kassos	Amity	Amity	Kassos, David	S	SE
Ouachita Valley	Kassos	Arkadelphia	Dalark	Langley, Travis	S	SE
Ouachita Valley	Kassos	Horatio	Horatio	TBD	S	
Ouachita Valley	Kassos	Hot Springs	Morning Star	Scott, Nancy	S	SP
River Valley	Embrey	Alma	Alma	Richardson, Dale	S	D
River Valley	Embrey	Alma	Kibler	Richardson, Dale	S	D
River Valley	Embrey	Cecil	Cecil	Marsh, Eric	S	E
River Valley	Embrey	Plainview	Plainview	Landers, Lonnie Milton	S	E
River Valley	Embrey	Charleston	Vesta	Marsh, Eric	S	E
River Valley	Embrey	Dardanelle	Chickalah	Benfer, James Arthur	S	E
River Valley	Embrey	Dardanelle	First	Benfer, James Arthur	S	E
River Valley	Embrey	Dardanelle	First	Mendez, Vitalino	A	E
River Valley	Embrey	Dardanelle	Liberty Hall	Benfer, James Arthur	S	E
River Valley	Embrey	Van Buren	Heritage	Hilliard, Wes	S	E
River Valley	Embrey	Van Buren	Heritage	James, William (Kip)	A	TLP
River Valley	Embrey	Greenwood	Asbury (fka Greenwood)	Embrey, John	S	E
Hempstead-Miller	Williams, K	Blevins	Bruce Memorial	Miller, Joe (GMC)	S	D

Ministry Session Minutes, Continued

APPOINTMENTS, continued

CIRCUIT	PRESIDING CIRCUIT ELDER	CITY	CHURCH	PASTOR	POSITION	STATUS
Hempstead-Miller	Williams, K	Texarkana	Christ	TBD	S	
Hempstead-Miller	Williams, K	Hope	Hinton	Eldridge, Ronnie	S	E
Hempstead-Miller	Williams, K	Texarkana	Holly Springs	Rhodes, Jerry	S	TLP
Hempstead-Miller	Williams, K	Washington	Washington	Williams, Keenan	S	SE
Dallas-Ouachita	Burchfield	Camden	Westside	Burchfield, Eula (Kat)	S	E
Dallas-Ouachita	Burchfield	Fordyce	Fordyce	Head, Deborah	S	D
Dallas-Ouachita	Burchfield	Sparkman	Holly Springs	Head, Deborah	S	D
Dallas-Ouachita	Burchfield	Camden	Timothy	TBD	S	
BRAZOS VALLEY AREA						
Presiding Area Elder: Polly Standing						
Central	Sitton	Bremond	Grace	Denman, Drew	S	SP
Central	Standing	Bryan	First	Sitton, Ricky Lynn	S	E
Central	Vargas	Bryan	First	Sarria-Anaya, J. Augusto	A	E
Central	Vargas	Bryan	First	Bass, Jeremy Christian	A	E
Central	Sitton	Bryan	Wesley	Bouse, William	S	D
Central	Sitton	Calvert	Sneed Memorial	Denman, Drew	S	SP
Central	Sitton	College Station	Aldersgate	Parga, Mario R.	S	E
Central	Lumpee	College Station	Aldersgate	Greenwood, Regina	A	E
Central	Standing	College Station	Christ Church	House, Jerry F.	S	E
Central	Lumpee	College Station	Christ Church	Masterson, Garry	A	E
Central	Lumpee	College Station	Christ Church	Agnor, William	A	TLP
Central	Lumpee	College Station	Christ Church	Smith, Brian	A	TLP
Central	Lumpee	College Station	Christ Church	TBD	A	
Central	Temple	Franklin	Franklin	Standing, Polly Doreen	S	E
Central	Sitton	Hearne	Grace	Westbrook, Gary	S	E
Central	Sitton	Wheelock	Wheelock	Westbrook, Gary	S	E
Eastern	Jackson	Bedias	Bedias	Pickett, Mark William	S	E
Eastern	Jackson	Dew	Dew	Robertson, Carl	S	TLP
Eastern	Jackson	Oakwood	Oakwood	Robertson, Carl	S	TLP
Eastern	Jackson	Flynn	Flynn	Sexton, Kelley G.	S	E
Eastern	Jackson	Normangee	First	Sexton, Kelley G.	S	E
Eastern	Jackson	Gause	Gause	McNeely, J. Kyle	S	E
Eastern	Jackson	Iola	Zion	Ray, Charles	S	SP
Eastern	Jackson	Kosse	Kosse	Day, Maurine	S	D
Eastern	Jackson	Leona	Evans Chapel	Burchell, John	S	E
Eastern	Jackson	Leona	Leona	Burchell, John	S	E
Eastern	Jackson	Madisonville	First	Jackson, Jimmie James	S	E
Eastern	Jackson	Richards	Farris Chapel	Bynum, Joshua	S	D
Eastern	Jackson	Richards	Richards	TBS	S	
Eastern	Jackson	Shiro	Shiro	Pickett, Mark William	S	E
Southern	Standing	Bellville	Bellville	Reasons, John Emerson	S	E
Southern	Lumpee	Bellville	Bellville	Abshire, Kyle	A	E
Southern	Reasons	Chappell Hill	Chappell Hill	Danheim, Danny Lee	S	SE

Ministry Session Minutes, Continued

APPOINTMENTS, continued

CIRCUIT	PRESIDING CIRCUIT ELDER	CITY	CHURCH	PASTOR	POSITION	STATUS
Southern	Reasons	Industry	Industry	TBD	S	
Southern	Reasons	Navasota	Stoneham	Vaughn, Mac	S	E
Southern	Reasons	Navasota	Lynn Grove	Beasley, Cathy	S	D
Southern	Reasons	Waller	Grace Global Methodist	Beasley, Cathy	S	D
Western	Standing	Caldwell	Caldwell Methodist	McMachen, Kevin Leonard	S	E
Western	McMachen	Caldwell	Cooks Point	Coats, Frank Richard	S	E
Western	McMachen	Cameron	First	Porterfield, Mark Andrew	S	E
Western	McMachen	Chriesman	Chriesman	Dillard, Roy	S	E
Western	McMachen	Milano	Liberty Community	Dillard, Roy	S	E
Western	McMachen	Milano	Milano	Dillard, Roy	S	E
Western	McMachen	Giddings	First	Carralero, Yuri M	S	D
Western	McMachen	Paige	Paige	Carralero, Yuri M	S	D
Western	McMachen	Thorndale	Pleasant Retreat	Johnson, Doris (DeeAnn)	S	D
COASTAL PLAINS AREA						
Presiding Area Elder: Chappell Temple						
Metro	Gilbert	Houston	Blueridge	Gilbert, Janice	S	E
Metro	Gilbert	Houston	Boynton	Davis, Linda Darnell	S	E
Metro	Gilbert	Houston	Central	TBD	S	
Metro	Gilbert	Rosharon	Covenant Glenn	Childress, Robert Earl	S	E
Metro	Byers	Rosharon	Covenant Glenn	Adams, Ross	A	E
Metro	Byers	Rosharon	Covenant Glenn	Firdous, Afzaal	A	E
Metro	Byers	Rosharon	Covenant Glenn	Richard, James Ronald	A	TLP
Metro	Byers	Rosharon	Covenant Glenn	Sanders, Audrey	A	D
Metro	Gilbert	Houston	El Buen Pastor	TBS	S	
Metro	Huhn	Houston	El Buen Pastor	TBS	A	
Metro	Gilbert	Friendswood	Friendswood	Bass, James Alan	S	E
Metro	Huhn	Friendswood	Friendswood	Huhn, Howard Clarence	A	E
Metro	Byers	Friendswood	Friendswood	McRae, Samuel	A	E
Metro	Gilbert	Webster	Gateway Community	Hageman, Randall Peter	S	E
Metro	Byers	Webster	Gateway Community	Hageman, Susan	A	E
Metro	Gilbert	Houston	Holy Trinity	May, Paul H.	S	E
Metro	Gilbert	Houston	Jones Memorial	Levingston, Kenneth R	S	E
Metro	Huhn	Houston	Jones Memorial	Henderson, Enid	A	E
Metro	Huhn	Houston	Jones Memorial	Edwards, Nakia	A	TLP
Metro	Huhn	Houston	Jones Memorial	Flanagan, Verronda E.	A	E
Metro	Huhn	Houston	Jones Memorial	Smith-Hubbard, Dorothy	A	E
Metro	Gilbert	Channel View	Old River Terrace	TBD	S	
Metro	Gilbert	Pasadena	Revive	Cadar, Arturo	S	D
Metro	Huhn	Pasadena	Revive	Estrada Dieguez, Yudeisy	A	TLP
Metro	Huhn	Pasadena	Revive	Lozano, Leo	A	TLP
Metro	Gilbert	Houston	El Mesias	Cortinas, Jose A.	S	TLP
Southern	Dorn	West Columbia	Columbia	Conway, Dan	S	E
Southern	Dorn	Richmond	Faith	Dorn II, David Alan	S	E
Southern	Byers	Richmond	Faith	Riggs, RaMona	A	TLP
Southern	Byers	Richmond	Faith	Towns, Gale	A	E

Ministry Session Minutes, Continued

APPOINTMENTS, continued

CIRCUIT	PRESIDING CIRCUIT ELDER	CITY	CHURCH	PASTOR	POSITION	STATUS
Southern	Dorn	Bay City	First	McNeill, Christopher Davis	S	E
Southern	Dorn	Brazoria	First	Bynum, Joshua	S	
Southern	Dorn	Sweeny	First	Bynum, Joshua	S	E
Southern	Dorn	Rosenberg	First	Heineman, Wendy	S	E
Southern	Dorn	Needville	Needville	TBD	S	E
Southern	Dorn	Pearland	Shepherd of the Heart	Conway, Christi Renee	S	E
Southern	Dorn	Lake Jackson	Brazosport	Dill, Andrew	S	E
Southern	Dorn	Freeport	First	Dill, Andrew	S	E
Southern	Dorn	Bay City	Markham	Williams, John W	S	E
Western	Smith	Brookshire	Community	Lyle, Susan	S	SP
Western	Smith	Alvin	First	Duncan, Wesley Alan	S	E
Western	Huhn	Alvin	First	Carter, Kenneth	A	E
Western	Byers	Alvin	First	Burke, Betsy (Elizabeth)	A	TLP
Western	Byers	Fulshear	Fulshear	Gragert, Erik	A	E
Western	Smith	Fulshear	Fulshear	Lupo, Alexander D.	S	E
Western	Smith	Fulshear	WordServe	Hogan, William E	S	E
Western	Smith	Pearland/Manvel	Redeemer	Goran, David Isaac	S	E
Western	Huhn	Pearland/Manvel	Redeemer	Sanchez Jr, Silverio	A	E
Western	Smith	Katy	Resurrection	Smith, Jason	S	E
Western	Smith	Katy	Resurrection (Aviva)	Hernandez, Daniel	A	E
Western	Smith	Missouri City	The Harvest	Lohmer Sr., Benjamin William	S	E
Western	Byers	Missouri City	The Harvest	Byers, Megan W.	A	E
Western	Huhn	Missouri City	The Harvest	Entricht, Lewis	A	D
Western	Smith	Sugar Land	Trinity	du Plessis, Ralph Pieter	S	E
Western	Smith	San Felipe	San Felipe	McMahon III, Joel Dyer	S	E
Western	Smith	Orchard	Orchard	Smith, James	S	TLP
Western	Smith	Wallis	Wallis	Smith, James	S	TLP
LAKES AREA						
Presiding Area Elders: Nick Sholars and David Brasher						
Jacksonville	Evans	Jacksonville	First	Evans, Patrick Haynes	S	E
Jacksonville	Donaldson	Jacksonville	First	Odom, Sarah Ann	A	D
Jacksonville	Evans	Henderson	Henry's Chapel	Scott, Katherine	S	TLP
Jacksonville	Evans	Kilgore	St. Lukes	Andrews, Allison Andres	S	E
Jacksonville	Donaldson	Kilgore	St. Lukes	Hicks, Daniel	A	D
Jacksonville	Evans	Troup	Troup	Sutfin, Jason	S	E
Jacksonville	Evans	Whitehouse	Whitehouse	Supak, Cameron Poerner	S	E
Jacksonville	Evans	Overton	Overton	Parsons, Fredrick Silas	S	E
Jacksonville	Evans	New Summerfield	New Summerfield	Jamerson, Dale E.	S	E
Jacksonville	Evans	Jacksonville	St. John's	Jamerson, Dale E.	S	E
Jacksonville	Evans	Arp	Arp	Laubenberg, William Charles	S	E
Jacksonville	Evans	New London	New London	Laubenberg, William Charles	S	E
Jacksonville	Evans	Rusk	Bethel	Nunnally, Charles	S	E
Lindale	Peschke	Edgewood	Cheatham Memorial	McGlocklin, David	S	E
Lindale	Peschke	Lindale	ChristPoint	Peschke, Michael Scott	S	E
Lindale	Donaldson	Lindale	ChristPoint	Looney, Tyler Chad	A	D
Lindale	Peschke	Emory	Emory	Banks, David L	S	E

Ministry Session Minutes, Continued

APPOINTMENTS, continued

CIRCUIT	PRESIDING CIRCUIT ELDER	CITY	CHURCH	PASTOR	POSITION	STATUS
Lindale	Peschke	Mineola	First	Thomas, John	S	E
Lindale	Peschke	Quitman	Liberty	Hicks, David	S	SE
Lindale	Peschke	Murchinson	Murchinson	TBS	S	
Lindale	Peschke	Wills Point	Russell Memorial	Cartwright, David A	S	E
Lindale	Peschke	Golden	Golden	Pickens, James W.	S	E
Lindale	Peschke	Mineola	Smith Chapel	Pickens, James W.	S	E
Lindale	Peschke	Alba	Alba	Epps, John	S	TLP
Lindale	Peschke	LaRue	LaRue	TBS	S	
Lindale	Peschke	Tyler	Swan-Wood Springs	Hooker, Samuel	S	SP
Palestine	Rickel	Elkhart	Elkhart	Rickel, Carmen Renae	S	E
Palestine	Rickel	Palestine	First	Lightsey, Geoffrey Wilson	S	E
Palestine	Rickel	Frankston	Frankston	Thomas, Matthew Todd	S	E
Palestine	Rickel	Grapeland	Grapeland	Harman, Wade Kenan	S	E
Palestine	Rickel	Malakoff	Malakoff	Fisher, Edward	S	TLP
Palestine	Rickel	Palestine	Westwood	TBS	S	
Palestine	Rickel	Frankston	Mt. Vernon	Dunn, Jacob Charles	S	D
Palestine	Rickel	Neches	Neches	Dunn, Jacob Charles	S	D
Palestine	Rickel	Palestine	Brushy Creek	TBS	S	
Tyler	TBD	Tyler	Bascom	TBS	S	
Tyler	TBD	Chandler	Chandler	Harkness, Bryan	S	E
Tyler	Donaldson	Chandler	Chandler	Blackmon, Derek	A	SP
Tyler	TBD	Tyler	Dayspring	Bagley, Kristopher Harrison	S	E
Tyler	Donaldson	Tyler	Dayspring	Laird, Aaron	A	D
Tyler	Donaldson	Tyler	Dayspring	McKee, Rusty	A	E
Tyler	TBD	Bullard	First	Brasher, David J	S	E
Tyler	TBD	Tyler	Lanes Chapel	Gage, Douglas Jeff	S	E
Tyler	TBD	Tyler	Marvin	Baker, Douglas Monroe	S	E
Tyler	Donaldson	Tyler	Marvin	Donaldson, Marc Bain	A	E
Tyler	Donaldson	Tyler	Marvin	Giles, Gerald L	A	E
Tyler	Donaldson	Tyler	Marvin	Joiner, Benjamin Jacob	A	E
Tyler	Donaldson	Tyler	Marvin	Stevens, Brandy	A	E
Tyler	TBD	Tyler	Pleasant Retreat	Wandling, William (Ed)	S	E
Tyler	TBD	Brownsboro	Brownsboro	Krone, Jill	S	SP
Tyler	TBD	Noonday	Noonday	TBS	S	
Tyler	TBD	Tyler	St. Paul's	Rosales Ortiz, Emigdio	S	E
PELICAN (LOUISIANA) AREA						
Presiding Area Elder: Ben McGehee						
Alexandria	Oliver	Bunkie	David Haas Memorial	Hoover, Joe	S	SE
Alexandria	Oliver	Bunkie	Evergreen (closing)	Hoover, Joe	S	SE
Alexandria	Oliver	Grand Cane	Grand Cane	TBD	S	
Alexandria	Oliver	Leesville	Leesville Korean	Lee, Sangho	S	SE
Alexandria	Oliver	Pollock	Pollock	TBD	S	
Alexandria	Oliver	Eola	White's Chapel	Hoover, Joe	S	SE
Baton Rouge	McGehee	Loranger	Cooper's Chapel	Moore, Adam R.	S	E
Baton Rouge	McGehee	Loranger	Loranger Legacy	Moore, Adam R.	S	E
Baton Rouge	McGehee	Baton Rouge	Asbury	TBD	S	

Ministry Session Minutes, Continued

APPOINTMENTS, continued

CIRCUIT	PRESIDING CIRCUIT ELDER	CITY	CHURCH	PASTOR	POSITION	STATUS
Baton Rouge	McGehee	St. Francisville	Feliciana	Oberg, Greg	S	E
Lake Charles	Blanchard	Gueydan	Gueydan	Peyton, Chyrelena	S	D
Lake Charles	Blanchard	Abbeville	Pecan Island	Peyton, Chyrelena	S	D
Lake Charles	Blanchard	Jennings	Jennings	TBD	S	
Lake Charles	Blanchard	Roanoke	Roanoke	TBD	S	
Lake Charles	Blanchard	New Iberia	First	Torres, Xavier	S	E
Lake Charles	Blanchard	Broussard	Redeeming Grace (Faith Comm)	Torres, Xavier	S	E
Lake Charles	Blanchard	Houma	Resurrection	Lindsey, Terry	S	E
Lake Charles	Blanchard	Vacherie	Vacherie	Lindsey, Terry	S	E
Lake Charles	Blanchard	Crowley	Ebenezer Cornerstone	TBD	S	
Lake Charles	Blanchard	Lake Charles	Living Water	Black, John Robert	S	E
Lake Charles	Blanchard	Lake Charles	Moss Bluff	TBD	S	
Lake Charles	Blanchard	Baton Rouge	New Roads	Graham, Kenneth	S	SE
Lake Charles	Blanchard	Galliano	S.L. Resurrection	Stringer, Tommy	S	E
Monroe	Oliver	Monroe	Lea Joyner Memorial	McGehee, Ben	S	E
Monroe	Goad	Monroe	Lea Joyner Memorial	Swanson, Betty	A	E
Monroe	Goad	Monroe	Lea Joyner Memorial	Wills, Sr., William	A	SE
Monroe	McGehee	Monroe	St. Mark's	Barnett, Lloyd	S	TLP
New Orleans	McGehee	Franklinton	Centenary	Locke, Cecil	S	D
New Orleans	McGehee	Pearl River	Pearl River	Abrams, Kathleen	S	E
New Orleans	McGehee	Chalmette	St. Bernard	Smith, Wanda	S	SE
New Orleans	McGehee	Angie	Varnado	Rasch, Mary	S	D
Shreveport	McGehee	Minden	Minden	Berger, Steve	S	E
Shreveport	McGehee	Shreveport	Shreveport	Bell, Steven	S	E
Shreveport	Goad	Shreveport	Shreveport	Hobson, David	A	D
Shreveport	Goad	Shreveport	Shreveport	Goad, Ashley Purcelle	A	E
Shreveport	Goad	Shreveport	Shreveport	Hulbert, Matthew	A	E
Shreveport	Goad	Shreveport	Shreveport	Kidd, Stephanie Thomas	A	E
Shreveport	Goad	Shreveport	Shreveport	Andress, Will K	A	E
PINEY WOODS AREA						
Presiding Area Elder: Brad McKenzie						
Jasper	Turner	Jasper	First	Joyce, Derek 5/1/2023	S	E
Jasper	McKenzie	Chireno	Chireno	Turner, Timothy Andrew	S	E
Jasper	McKenzie	San Augustine	First	Turner, Timothy Andrew	S	E
Jasper	Turner	Jasper	Curtis	Postell, Carolyn	S	SP
Jasper	Turner	Newton	First	McMahon, Janice	S	TLP
Jasper	Turner	Jasper	Homer	TBD	S	
Jasper	Turner	Milam	Liberty Springs	Coplen, Gwen	S	SP
Jasper	Turner	Spurger	Spurger	TBS	S	
Jasper	Turner	Call	Call	TBS	S	
Jasper	Turner	Kirbyville	Watson Chapel	TBS	S	
Jasper	Turner	Hemphill	First	Williams, Alberto	S	E
Jasper	Turner	Pineland	First	Williams, Alberto	S	E
Lufkin	McKenzie	Diboll	Diboll	Huffman, Jason Bret	S	E
Lufkin	McKenzie	Livingston	First	McMahon IV, Joel Dyer	S	E
Lufkin	Byers	Livingston	First	Leistikow, Alain	A	E

Ministry Session Minutes, Continued

APPOINTMENTS, continued

CIRCUIT	PRESIDING CIRCUIT ELDER	CITY	CHURCH	PASTOR	POSITION	STATUS
Lufkin	Huffman	Woodville	Woodville	Thornsburry, Jon King	S	E
Lufkin	Huffman	Trinity	Trinity	Bedavian, Michael	S	E
Lufkin	Huffman	Crockett	Wesleyan	Bedavian, Michael	S	E
Lufkin	Huffman	Lufkin	Bethlehem	TBS	S	
Lufkin	Huffman	Kennard	Center Hill	TBD	S	
Lufkin	Huffman	Lufkin	Ryan's Chapel	Weeks Jr., Charles	S	TLP
Lufkin	Huffman	Groveton	First	Hastings, Jeffry A	S	SE
Lufkin	Huffman	Groveton	Prairie View	Hastings, Jeffry A	S	SE
Lufkin	Huffman	Bronson	Bronson	Lundberg, Pamela S	S	D
Lufkin	Huffman	Lufkin	Homer	Lundberg, Pamela S	S	D
Nacogdoches	Monroe	Wells	Falvey Memorial	Waters, Michael Alan	S	D
Nacogdoches	McKenzie	Center	First	Monroe, Malcom Blair	S	E
Nacogdoches	Monroe	Alto	A Frank Smith	Ross, Timothy	S	E
Nacogdoches	Monroe	Alto	Cold Springs	Ross, Timothy	S	E
Nacogdoches	Monroe	Garrison	Garrison	TBD	S	
Nacogdoches	Monroe	Timpson	Timpson	TBD	S	
Nacogdoches	Monroe	Nacogdoches	Bonita	McKenzie, Brad	S	E
Nacogdoches	Monroe	Nacogdoches	Perritte	McKenzie, Brad	S	E
Nacogdoches	Monroe	Tenaha	Tenaha	Scalora, Michael	S	
Nacogdoches	Monroe	Nacogdoches	Melrose	Stine, John	S	SP
Nacogdoches	Monroe	Paxton	Paxton	Stine, John	S	SP
Nacogdoches	Monroe	Shelbyville	Shelbyville	Harding, Sherry	S	D
Nacogdoches	Monroe	Center	Short	Harding, Sherry	S	D
RED RIVER AREA						
Presiding Area Elders: Nick Sholars and David Brasher						
Carthage	Otto	Beckville	Beckville	Coman, Tim	S	SP
Carthage	Otto	Carthage	First	Otto, Kevin Rydell	S	E
Carthage	Otto	Marshall	Marshall	Luckert, John David	S	E
Carthage	Otto	Laird Hill	Pirtle	Mayhugh, Lisa Annette	S	D
Carthage	Otto	Marshall	St. Mark's	Rodgers, Milton	S	TLP
Carthage	Otto	Marshall	Summit	Roberts, Darryl	S	D
Carthage	Otto	Carthage	Allison's Chapel	Kennedy, David	S	E
Carthage	Otto	Carthage	Rehobeth	Kennedy, David	S	E
Carthage	Otto	Mt. Enterprise	Mt. Enterprise	Burrell, Shana	S	SP
Carthage	Otto	Panola	Mt. Zion	TBS	S	
Carthage	Otto	Henderson	St. Paul's	Morris, Randall	S	D
Carthage	Otto	Tatum	Tatum	Smith, Garlin Dwain	S	D
Carthage	Otto	Carthage	Deadwood	Smith, Mary	S	D
Carthage	Otto	Carthage	Galloway	Smith, Mary	S	D
Mt. Pleasant	Burton	Gilmer	First	Smith, Matthew Brian (Matt)	S	E
Mt. Pleasant	Burton	Mt. Pleasant	St. Andrew	Burton, Tommy Earl	A	E
Mt. Pleasant	Burton	Mt. Pleasant	Bridges Chapel	Hyde, Ross Douglas	S	E
Mt. Pleasant	Burton	Mt. Pleasant	Greenhill	Hyde, Ross Douglas	S	E

Ministry Session Minutes, Continued

APPOINTMENTS, continued

CIRCUIT	PRESIDING CIRCUIT ELDER	CITY	CHURCH	PASTOR	POSITION	STATUS
Mt. Pleasant	Burton	Dangerfield	Jenkins	Prince, Ray	S	E
Mt. Pleasant	Burton	Lone Star	Lone Star	Prince, Ray	S	E
Mt. Pleasant	Burton	New Boston	Daniel's Chapel	Smith, Charles Bradley (Brad)	S	SP
Mt. Pleasant	Burton	New Boston	Red Bayou	TBS	S	
Mt. Pleasant	Burton	Texarkana	First	TBD	S	
Mt. Pleasant	Burton	Gilmer	Hopewell	TBD	S	
Mt. Pleasant	Burton	Ore City	Ore City	Hogan, Harold (Ed)	S	
Mt. Pleasant	Burton	Mt. Pleasant	West New Hope	TBD	S	
Mt. Pleasant	Burton	Hughes Springs	WRS	TBS	S	
Mt. Pleasant	Burton	Dangerfield	Bradfield Chapel	Allison, Sandra	S	E
Mt. Pleasant	Burton	Dangerfield	First	Allison, Sandra	S	E
Texarkana	Tilley	Atlanta	First	Kouba, Stewart	S	E
Texarkana	Tilley	Gladewater	Gladewater	Miller Jr., William A	S	E
Texarkana	Tilley	Longview	Grace Crossing	Tilley, Merlin Keith	S	E
Texarkana	Tilley	Longview	Greggton	TBS	S	
Texarkana	Tilley	Texarkana	Hardy Memorial	Heyduck, Richard Eric	S	E
Texarkana	Tilley	Linden	Linden	Mitchell, Kara Denise	S	E
Texarkana	Tilley	Naples	Cornett	Mitchell, Chad Eric	S	D
Texarkana	Tilley	Hughes Springs	Hughes Springs	Mitchell, Chad Eric	S	D
Texarkana	Tilley	Maud	Maud	TBS	S	
Texarkana	Tilley	Jefferson	First	Crim, Mark	S	TLP
Texarkana	Tilley	Karnak	Karnak	Landers, Mark W	S	E
Texarkana	Tilley	Atlanta	Laws Chapel	Akin, David Michael	S	D
Texarkana	Tilley	Pittsburgh	North Avenue	Shields, Doris	S	SP
Texarkana	Tilley	Pittsburgh	Reeve's Chapel	TBD	S	
Texarkana	Tilley	Linden	Shiloh	Hunter, Glenn	S	SP
Texarkana	Tilley	Linden	Shiloh	Sullivan, Sue	S	SP
Texarkana	Tilley	Judson	Summerfield	TBD	S	
SABINE AREA						
Presiding Area Elder: Carol Bruse						
Bay	Munn	Crystal Beach	Bay Vue	Hudson, Valerie	S	E
Bay	Munn	Port Bolivar	Port Bolivar	Hudson, Valerie	S	E
Bay	Munn	High Island	St. Matthew's	Hudson, Valerie	S	E
Bay	Munn	Anahuac	First	Lea, Jamie	S	E
Bay	Munn	Wallisville	Middleton Memorial	Lea, Jamie	S	E
Bay	Munn	Baytown	Cedar Bayou Grace	Leick, Sean Sullivan	S	E
Bay	Munn	Mont Belvieu	First	Lucas, William Douglas	S	E
Bay	Munn	Highlands	Highlands	Burns, Kenneth DeWayne	S	TLP
Bay	Munn	Baytown	Iglesia St. Marcos	TBS	S	
Bay	Munn	Baytown	St. John's	TBD	S	
Bay	Bruse	Baytown	St. Mark's	Munn, Kenneth Alan	S	E
Bay	Huhn	Baytown	St. Mark's	Tolon, Linda Jean	A	E
Thicket	Bunch	Devers	Devers	TBD	S	
Thicket	Bunch	Buna	First	Madden, David	S	E
Thicket	Bunch	Kountze	First	TBD	S	
Thicket	Bunch	Silsbee	First	Waddell, Brian Allen	S	D

Ministry Session Minutes, Continued

APPOINTMENTS, continued

CIRCUIT	PRESIDING CIRCUIT ELDER	CITY	CHURCH	PASTOR	POSITION	STATUS
Thicket	Bunch	Wildwood	Wildwood Community	Carrion, Randolph Preston	S	E
Thicket	Bunch	Lumberton	Woodcrest	Jordan, Walter Charles	S	E
Triangle	Kissel	Orange	Faith	Walker, Amy	S	E
Triangle	Kissel	Vidor	First	TBS	S	
Triangle	Bruse	Nederland	First	Kissel, Kevin Mark	S	E
Triangle	Kissel	Winne	Grace	Abshire, Kyle	S	E
Triangle	Kissel	Port Neches	Port Neches	Estler, Casey	S	E
Triangle	Bruse	Bridge City	St. Paul	Bunch, Thomas Mark	S	E
Triangle	Kissel	Beaumont	Wesley	Ivey, Richard	S	E
Triangle	Huhn	Beaumont	Wesley	TBD	A	
Triangle	Huhn	Beaumont	Wesley	Martin, Jonathan	A	TLP
Triangle	Kissel	Nederland	Wesley	Weber, Andrew Burnett	S	E
Trinity	Williams, G	China	China	TBD	S	
Trinity	Williams, G	Beaumont	Forest Park	TBD	S	
Trinity	Williams, G	Daisetta-Hull	Daisetta	TBS	S	
Trinity	Bruse	Dayton	First	Williams, Guy Matthew	S	E
Trinity	Williams, G	Hardin	Hardin	Watson, Gideon H	S	E
Trinity	Williams, G	Liberty/Dayton	South Liberty	DeRouen-Hough, Victoria	S	TLP
SAM HOUSTON AREA						
Presiding Area Elder: Kenneth Levingston						
Lake Houston	Flagg	Atascocita	Atascocita	Tyson II, Howard Michael	S	E
Lake Houston	Lumpee	Atascocita	Atascocita	Williams, Leigh-Anne Ramona	A	E
Lake Houston	Flagg	Cleveland	Cleveland	Smith, Gregory Clark	S	E
Lake Houston	Flagg	Coldspring	Coldspring	DeWitt, David	S	E
Lake Houston	Flagg	Humble	First	Flagg, James Norman	S	E
Lake Houston	Flagg	Humble	Journey of Faith	Goldsmith, Stephen	S	E
Lake Houston	Lumpee	Humble	Journey of Faith	Goldsmith, Deneen	A	E
Lake Houston	Flagg	Kingwood	Kingwood	Palmer, James Burton	S	E
Lake Houston	Lumpee	Kingwood	Kingwood	Reyes, Sara	A	E
Lake Houston	Lumpee	Kingwood	Kingwood	Sweet, Stacey	A	E
Lake Houston	Lumpee	Kingwood	Kingwood	Wyllie, Clinton	A	E
Lake Houston	Flagg	Huffman	Lake Houston	Martin, Russell	S	D
Lake Houston	Flagg	Stephen Creek	Paul Horton	Rayne, Mariann	S	E
Lake Houston	Flagg	Riverside	Riverside	TBS	S	
Lake Houston	Flagg	Splendora	First Methodist Church	Lightfoot, Steven Geoffrey	S	E
Lake Houston	Flagg	Shepherd	Shepherd	Lightfoot, Steven Geoffrey	S	E
Lake Houston	Flagg	New Waverly	New Waverly	New, Aaron	S	E
Lake Houston	Flagg	Huntsville	Phelps	New, Aaron	S	E
Cypress	Sims	Houston	Cornerstone	Sims, Heather	S	E
Cypress	Vargas	Houston	Cornerstone	Sims, Jonathan	A	E
Cypress	Vargas	Houston	Cornerstone	Rucker, David R	A	E
Cypress	Sims	Cypress	Cypress	McCollum, Anthony Wayne	S	E
Cypress	Vargas	Cypress	Cypress	Luna, Arisbel	A	E
Cypress	Sims	Cypress	Good Shepherd	Neely, Matthew Martin	S	E
Cypress	Vargas	Cypress	Good Shepherd	Allen, Sterling Martin	A	E

Ministry Session Minutes, Continued

APPOINTMENTS, continued

CIRCUIT	PRESIDING CIRCUIT ELDER	CITY	CHURCH	PASTOR	POSITION	STATUS
Cypress	Sims	Tomball	Rose Hill	Gilbert, Craig	S	E
Cypress	Sims	Tomball	Tomball	Haygood Jr. William Hooper	S	E
Cypress	Vargas	Tomball	Tomball	Jones, Rebecca Criss	A	E
Cypress	Vargas	Tomball	Tomball	Solomon, Lisa	A	D
Cypress	Sims	Hockley	Macedonia	Ruddock, Payton	S	SP
Cypress	Sims	Waller	New Hope	Ruddock, Payton	S	SP
Woodlands	Stephenson	The Woodlands	The Woodlands	Sorensen, Mark	S	E
Woodlands	Williams, L A	The Woodlands	The Woodlands	Essen, Drew	A	E
Woodlands	Williams, L A	The Woodlands	The Woodlands	Kent, Susan	A	E
Woodlands	Williams, L A	The Woodlands	The Woodlands	Olive, Jeff	A	E
Woodlands	Williams, L A	The Woodlands	The Woodlands	Swayze, Mark	A	D
Woodlands	Williams, L A	The Woodlands	The Woodlands	Lumpee, Daniel	A	E
Woodlands	Williams, L A	The Woodlands	The Woodlands	Drake, Pierce	A	D
Woodlands	Williams, L A	The Woodlands	The Woodlands	Riley, Luann	A	D
Woodlands	Williams, L A	The Woodlands	The Woodlands	Tyler, Karen	A	E
Woodlands	Williams, L A	The Woodlands	The Woodlands	Grant, Stew	A	E
Woodlands	Williams, L A	The Woodlands	The Woodlands	McCarthy, Margarita	A	D
Woodlands	Williams, L A	The Woodlands	The Woodlands	McLain, Chris	A	E
Woodlands	Williams, L A	The Woodlands	TW IVI	Sanchez, Enrique	A	TLP
Woodlands	Williams, L A	Montgomery	TW Christ the King	Lindwall, David	A	E
Woodlands	Williams, L A	Montgomery	TW Christ the King	Matthews, George (Cabe)	A	E
Woodlands	Williams, L A	Woodforest	TW Woodforest	Parker, Brent	A	E
Woodlands	Williams, L A	Woodforest	TW Woodforest	TBD	A	
Woodlands	Stephenson	The Woodlands	Christ Church	Powers, Jeffrey Allen	S	E
Woodlands	Vargas	The Woodlands	Christ Church	Kent, Ellen	A	E
Woodlands	Stephenson	The Woodlands	Covenant	Anderson, Zachary	S	TLP
Woodlands	Stephenson	The Woodlands	Covenant	Vargas, Dario	S	E
Woodlands	Stephenson	Conroe	First	McMann, John Wayne	S	E
Woodlands	Vargas	Conroe	First - 2nd campus	TBD	S	
Woodlands	Vargas	Conroe	First	Acosta, Elizabeth	A	E
Woodlands	Vargas	Conroe	First	Acosta, Frank	A	E
Woodlands	Vargas	Conroe	First	Martin, Brenda	A	D
Woodlands	Lumpee	Conroe	First	Moore, Bryan James	A	E
Woodlands	Stephenson	Willis	First	Bynum, Jonathan David	S	E
Woodlands	Stephenson	Houston	Lakewood	Stephenson, John Richard	S	E
Woodlands	Vargas	Houston	Lakewood	Torrez, Jacob Isaac	A	TLP
Woodlands	Stephenson	Conroe	Living Way	Posey II, William M.	S	E
Woodlands	Stephenson	Huntsville	Christ the King	TBD	S	
Woodlands	Stephenson	Huntsville	Amazing Grace	Wright, Douglas	S	E
Woodlands	Stephenson	Conroe	St. Paul's	Barr, Ramona	S	E
Woodlands	Stephenson	Huntsville	Pleasant Grove	Levingston, Kenneth	S	
Woodlands	Stephenson	Huntsville	St. Paul's	Levingston, Kenneth	S	
Woodlands	Stephenson	Coldspring	Mt. Zion	Thomas, Kimm	S	D
Woodlands	Stephenson	Huntsville	Warren Chapel	Thomas, Kimm	S	D

Ministry Session Minutes, Continued

APPOINTMENTS, continued

EXTENSION MINISTRY APPOINTMENTS					
Kentucky	Dean of Chapel	Lexington	Asbury Theological Seminary	LaGrone, Jessica	E
Texas	TDCJ Chaplain	Overton	Billy Moore Correctional Center	Tuttle, LaurieAnne	D
Texas	Presiding Elder		Conference	Bruse, Carolyn	E
Texas	Operations Officer		Conference	Kinnear, Vivian	E
Texas	Registrar		Conference	Newsome, John	E
Texas	Treasurer		Conference	Porter, Brenda	D
Texas	Presiding Elder		Conference	Sholars, Douglas (Nick)	SE
Texas	Presiding Elder		Conference	Temple, Chappell	SE
Texas	President Pro Tempore		Conference	Welch, Jim	SE
Texas	Executive Officer		Conference	Burnham, Jason	E
Texas	Adjunct Professor		LeTourneau University & Baylor Truett's Wesley House	Hand, Robert	E
Texas	Chaplain	Whitehouse	US Air Force, Ret.	Rider, Paul	SE
Louisiana		Ruston	World Methodist Evangelism	Yeich, Stephen Brian	E
Texas	Presiding Elder	Area	Conference	Oliver, Lamar	E
Texas	Presiding Elder	Circuit	Conference	Hagger, Robert (Bob)	E
Texas	Presiding Elder	Circuit	Conference	Fink, Bryan	E
Texas	Presiding Elder	Circuit	Conference	Bush, David	E
Kentucky		Lexington	Asbury Theological Seminary	Voigts, Michael	E

LEGEND

Legend:	
S	Senior Pastor
A	Associate Pastor
SP	Supply Pastor
D	Deacon
E	Elder
SD	Senior Deacon
SE	Senior Elder
TLP	Transitional Local Pastor
TBD	Appointment to be determined
TBS	Supply Pastor to be determined

Nick Sholars offered prayer for the Lakes Area; Ben McGehee offered prayer for Louisiana; Brad McKenzie offered prayer for the Piney Woods Area; David Brasher offered prayer for the Red River Area; Carol Bruse offered prayer for the Sabine Area; Kenneth Livingston offered prayer for the Sam Houston Area; Bishop Jones offered prayer for those in Extension Ministries.

You have heard the list of appointments. They've been printed. They have been amended to some extent. We still are an Episcopal Church. And **I hereby fix the appointments. Amen.**

Ministry Session Minutes, Continued

Mike Tyson:

Finance and Administration Report, Pages 35-51, Pre-Conference Journal

On August 26th of 2022, we were legally Incorporated in the state of Texas. Now we are a Conference of 339 churches with the expectation of even more coming. We have churches all over Eastern Texas, Louisiana and Arkansas. We have 17 new church starts that are in some form of development. All of this has been accomplished with minimal paid staff, many of whom have been paid well below a market or even a fair wage, and the efforts of laity and clergy working virtual second job as volunteers. I'm here to tell you we are financially strong.

Our Balance Sheet has a liability of \$100,000 dollars that's listed as prepaid receipts. This is the generous gift given to our Conference at the beginning of 2023, by The Woodlands Methodist Church. As per our agreement with them, effective July 1, this item moved from a liability to an income item, and it represents The Woodlands Methodist Church annual commitment to Conference Connectional giving. June 30th, we had cash in the bank of just over \$380,000 dollars and zero (\$0) long term liabilities. The only liabilities that we have relate to payroll and they're there simply because they are timing issues. On page 38, you will find our Income Statement. And see that through 2023 we have total revenue of just over \$463,000 dollars

(See Finance and Administration report beginning on the next page).

Ministry Session Minutes, Continued

FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION REPORT

By Mike Tyson

Your Finance and Administration Committee (FAC) has been hard at work to responsibly steward the financial resources of our growing Conference.

Through June of 2023 we have total revenue of \$463,305 this compares to budgeted revenue for the year of \$750,000. We are tracking nicely toward that budgeted number. Through June we have an excess of income over expenses of \$234,064. You will notice on our balance sheet that we have a liability of \$100,000 listed as “prepaid receipts” this is the generous gift given to our Conference at the beginning of 2023, by the Woodlands Methodist Church (TWMC). As per our agreement with them, effective July 1 this moved from a liability to an income item and represents TWMC annual commitment to Conference Connectional giving. Thank you TWMC for your generosity and for now being a part of ETXGMC!

Your FAC is recommending that several financial policies and procedures for the Conference be approved. Those policies have been created by a subgroup of the FAC committee, reviewed by your Conference staff and approved by the FAC. These policies were then subsequently reviewed and approved by the Conference Connectional Council. They are a part of this report for your approval.

The Connectional Council is recommending that we institute a cap on Connectional Giving to the Annual Conference. **The FAC and the Connectional Council are recommending that we approve a cap, so that no church in the Annual Conference contributes more than 25% of the Annual Conference’s total income.** See the examples below. The rationale behind this is that the ETXGMC does not become overly dependent on the funding from a single church.

Example:

Total Income for the Conference is \$1,000,000 the 25% cap is \$250,000.

Conference Connectional Funding percentage is 1.75%

Church A’s operating income is 15,000,000.

The Connectional funding obligation would be 262,500.

Therefore, church A’s Connectional Funding obligation would be \$250,000.

It is the goal of the FAC to keep the Connectional Funding request from the Annual Conference as low as possible. Throughout 2023 we have maintained our Conference Connectional Funding at 1% of a church’s operating income. Moving into 2024 we anticipate adding some additional staff, and we as a Conference are trying to move towards supporting the church’s of ETX, as well as partnering with an international GMC Conference. We are still exploring how and with whom we will partner,

(Continued on next page)

Ministry Session Minutes, Continued

but we are committing \$110,000 to this partnership. We are planning to partner with various New Church starts around the Conference for \$200,000, with a max of \$50,000 to any one church. Further, are committing to our Hispanic and African American initiatives \$150,00 to help grow healthy leadership and prospering churches in these important areas of the ETXGMC.

As all pension and benefits are being handled at the denominational level we are not required at this time, to staff for any of the administrative positions to handle the details of those pensions and benefits. Your FAC and Connectional Council are committed to keeping the Conference as lean as possible and still do an excellent job of supporting the churches of the ETX. We remain leery of creating any kind of bureaucratic system that might sap the resources and vitality of our local churches.

You will see as part of our budget for 2024 that we are requesting that the Conference approve a Conference Connectional Funding rate of 1.75%. This is a three-quarter percent increase over our current one percent rate. This will allow us to make the investments in our local and international GMC churches that we believe will serve the Kingdom of God. This rate will also allow for adequate funding of Conference Staff. This 1.75% compares to 3% in the Mid-Tex Conference and 5% in the Great Plains Conference (our sister Conferences in Texas).

You will also find as an addendum to the 2023-2024 budget that is a part of this report the staffing costs for the Annual Conference, we lift this up to you to be as transparent as possible. You will see that there is a category called Future Staff Development. That is there to accommodate the future needs of the Conference. All hiring of Conference staff will be vetted and recommended by a Conference Personnel Committee and all director/office level staff will be approved by the Connectional Council. With the unanimous support of the Finance Committee and the Connectional Council we present the 2024 budget as printed.

What an amazing year 2023 has been for all of us! We began this journey as a Conference with zero churches and \$4,852 dollars in the bank. At the beginning of this year, we were recognized as an Annual Conference of the Global Methodist Church. We are now a Conference of 338 churches covering the states of Louisiana, Arkansas, and the Eastern part of Texas. God is moving among us and doing amazing things for the Kingdom of God in our communities and the world. As Paul says in Romans 8:31 "If God is for us, who can be against us?"

Ministry Session Minutes, Continued

Eastern Texas Conference

Statement of Financial Position

As of June 30, 2023

	TOTAL
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Bank Accounts	
1001 Amegy Checking (7435)	0.00
1001.GF Unrestricted	381,715.51
Total 1001 Amegy Checking (7435)	381,715.51
Total Bank Accounts	\$381,715.51
Total Current Assets	\$381,715.51
TOTAL ASSETS	\$381,715.51
LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Other Current Liabilities	
2100 Payroll Liabilities Payable	
2130 Payroll Tax Payable	2,858.80
2140 Medical Insurance	6,992.00
2150 Pension Payable	5,220.90
Total 2100 Payroll Liabilities Payable	15,071.70
2300 Future Clergy Retreat Funds	2,200.11
2350 Legal Assistance Payable	15,000.00
2550 Prepaid Receipts	100,000.00
Total Other Current Liabilities	\$132,271.81
Total Current Liabilities	\$132,271.81
Total Liabilities	\$132,271.81
Equity	
3010 Net Assets	15,379.20
Net Revenue	234,064.50
Total Equity	\$249,443.70
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	\$381,715.51

Cash Basis Monday, July 3, 2023 02:51 PM GMT-05:00

Ministry Session Minutes, Continued

Our Balance Sheet has a liability of \$100,000 dollars that's listed as prepaid receipts. This is the generous gift given to our Conference at the beginning of 2023, by The Woodlands Methodist Church. As per our agreement with them, effective July 1, this item moved from a liability to an income item, and it represents The Woodlands Methodist Church annual commitment to Conference Connectional giving. June 30th, we had cash in the bank of just over \$380,000 dollars and zero (\$0) long term liabilities. The only liabilities that we have relate to payroll and they're there simply because they are timing issues. On page 38, you will find our Income Statement. And see that through 2023 we have total revenue of just over \$463,000 dollars.

Eastern Texas Conference

Statement of Activity

January - June, 2023

	TOTAL
Revenue	
4000 Contributed Income	
4100 Donor Contributions to ETXGMC	6,730.00
4200 Donor Designated - New Church Starts	4,949.40
4900 Other Income	1,000.00
Total 4000 Contributed Income	12,679.40
5000 Connectional Funding	
5100 Church Connectional Funding	450,626.29
Total 5000 Connectional Funding	450,626.29
Total Revenue	\$463,305.69
GROSS PROFIT	\$463,305.69
Expenditures	
6000 Ministry Expenses	
6100 Connectional Expenses	
6120 Board of Ministry	555.00
Total 6100 Connectional Expenses	555.00
6300 Travel, Lodging, and Meals	
6310 Travel Allowance	503.76
6320 Airfare	2,242.82
6330 Hotels	3,099.63
6340 Car Rental and Taxis	406.60
6350 Mileage and Tolls	11,055.25
6360 Meals	3,667.68
Total 6300 Travel, Lodging, and Meals	20,975.74
6600 ETXGMC Events	
6610 Conferences	
6612 Conference Receipts	-17,339.06
6615 Conference Expenses	48,880.90
Total 6610 Conferences	31,541.84
6620 Continuing Education Conferences	1,376.17
6630 Retreats	
6632 Retreat Receipts	-16,425.39
6635 Retreat Expenses	16,425.39
Total 6630 Retreats	0.00
Total 6600 ETXGMC Events	32,918.01
6700 Initiatives	
6730 Hispanic Initiative	1,125.00
6760 African Global Initiative	750.00
Total 6700 Initiatives	1,875.00
Total 6000 Ministry Expenses	56,323.75

Ministry Session Minutes, Continued

FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION, continued

Eastern Texas Conference

Statement of Activity

January - June, 2023

	TOTAL
7000 Personnel Expense	
7200 Payroll Expenses	
7210 Salaries & Wages	97,824.02
7220 Pension	4,370.80
7230 Clergy Housing Allowance	29,306.68
7240 Accountable Reimbursements	2,000.00
7260 Clergy SECA Allowance	5,884.00
7270 Health Insurance	6,992.00
7280 Employer Payroll Taxes	3,107.76
Total 7200 Payroll Expenses	149,485.26
Total 7000 Personnel Expense	149,485.26
8000 Supporting Expenses	
8100 Office Expenses	
8110 Supplies	693.34
8125 Software & Technology	1,710.21
8130 Hospitality	1,152.06
8140 Shipping & Postage	243.06
8145 Communications General	70.09
8170 Printing & Photocopying	324.16
8175 Advertising & Marketing	3,087.26
8180 Bank Fees & Service Charges	46.70
Total 8100 Office Expenses	7,326.88
8500 Other Expenses	
8520 Insurance	
8521 Liability Insurance	5,758.68
Total 8520 Insurance	5,758.68
Total 8500 Other Expenses	5,758.68
Total 8000 Supporting Expenses	13,085.56
Total Expenditures	\$218,894.57
NET OPERATING REVENUE	\$244,411.12
Other Expenditures	
9200 Payments to New Church Starts	4,949.40
9300 Donation to WCA, WAVE 2	5,397.22
Total Other Expenditures	\$10,346.62
NET OTHER REVENUE	\$ -10,346.62
NET REVENUE	\$234,064.50

Ministry Session Minutes, Continued

This compares to a budgeted revenue this year of, for the whole of '23, of \$750,000 dollars. We are tracking nicely towards that number. We frankly anticipate being oversubscribed for that. Through June, we have an excess of income over expenses of right at \$234,000 dollars. These excess funds would be used to build up a modest reserve for ongoing Conference expenses. Your Finance and Administration Committee is recommending that several financial policies and procedures for the conference be approved.

EASTERN TEXAS CONFERENCE OF THE GLOBAL METHODIST CHURCH ACCOUNTING POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

PAYROLL PROCESS

Recording, Safeguarding, and Accounting for Payroll Disbursements

Focus on Internal Accounting Controls:

- Safeguarding and detecting unauthorized cash payroll transactions
- Appropriate authorization and control over the creation of a paid employee
- Proper recording of payroll disbursements in the payroll accounting system
- Accurate reporting of year-end federal tax documents including Forms W-2 and 1099 and related summary reports to be filed with the Internal Revenue Service

Accounting Procedures for Payroll Disbursements

1. The COO is responsible for the establishment of an arrangement of a relationship with an automated payroll processing service. **Such arrangements will be reviewed on an annual basis.**
2. Payroll distributions are made by electronic deposit where at all possible. Payroll distributions are made on the 15th and 30th of each month.
3. The CAA will enter all payroll information including hours worked by employees paid by the hour. This responsibility falls to the Treasurer when the CAA is unavailable.
4. The CAA is responsible for the maintenance of the employee database including the setting up of new employees. Control should be established over this area to ensure that fictitious employees are not established.
5. The CAA is responsible for the timely completion and filing of Forms W-2 for all employees and pastors and 1099 for applicable vendors and independent contractors under the direction of the Treasurer.
- 6. The Treasurer will be responsible for the Conference's compliance with all tax filings.**

Ministry Session Minutes, Continued

EASTERN TEXAS CONFERENCE OF THE GLOBAL METHODIST CHURCH ACCOUNTING POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

ACCOUNTING AND FINANCIAL REPORTING

Recording, Classifying and Reporting Financial Results

Focus on Internal Accounting Controls:

- Safeguarding and detecting of unauthorized entries to the financial accounting and reporting process.
- Timing reporting and comparison of actual to budgeted revenues and expenses.

General Ledger Maintenance and Journal Entry Process

1. Journal entries are to be made by the Treasurer.
2. Entries to the financial records are to be made only for transactions that cannot be made through established processes, i.e., cash receipts, cash disbursements, and payroll.
3. All entries are to be posted into the QuickBooks System and hard copies are printed out and signed along with supporting documentation attached.

Capitalization Limits

1. Expenditures in excess of \$10,000 that benefit more than one fiscal period are to be capitalized.

Financial Reporting

The Conference's financial reporting will be based upon the cash basis of accounting modified to reflect Finance Committee designated and or donor-restricted funds.

The Duties and Responsibilities of the Finance Committee

1. The approval of the annual budget is to be submitted to and approved by the Finance Committee prior to the budget's submission to the Annual Conference for final approval.
2. The establishment of written financial policies and documentation of the internal accounting controls required to protect the financial and other resources of the Conference.
3. Provision for an annual audit of the Conference's financial records by a respected certified public accounting firm.
4. Recommendation to the Treasurer of appropriate depositories for the Conference's funds.

Ministry Session Minutes, Continued

EXPENSE ACCOUNT POLICY FOR CONFERENCE EMPLOYEES AND VOLUNTEERS

Document created: April 20, 2023

Policy approved by FAC: July 5, 2023

The Finance and Administration Committee of the Eastern Texas Conference of the Global Methodist Church (the Conference) adopts the following resolution pursuant to IRS regulations. It is effective for the calendar year 2023 and all future years until amended or unless expressly revoked or suspended.

The Conference's employees and volunteers will be reimbursed for ordinary and necessary business expenses incurred in performing their ministry responsibilities on behalf of the Conference. Requests for reimbursement should include documentation and substantiation of the amount, business purpose, date, and place of the cost; a list of those present is also needed for meals. Appropriate documents, cash receipts, canceled checks, credit card sales slips, and contemporaneous records (for those non-receipt expenses less than \$75) must be attached to each expense report.

These reimbursements shall be estimated and included in preparing the annual Conference budget and assigned to accounts as appropriate.

The Treasurer must be provided the substantiation within sixty (60) days of the employee or volunteer incurring the expenses. If an individual is given an advance for expenses, that individual must return any amounts received in excess of the substantiated cost to the Conference within one hundred twenty (120) days of receipt of the advance.

The Conference will not report any properly substantiated reimbursement payments as income on Form W-2.

The Conference will not reimburse travel expenses for spouses, dependents, or others who are accompanying individuals conducting business for the organization unless they, too, are conducting business for the organization.

Covered for Employees

Work Supplies

Auto (mileage log with an enumeration of their general purpose if by auto at IRS rate for employees instead of gasoline receipts)

Other Travel Fares

Hotel and Meals

when on conference business

Continuing Education (according to conference policy to be established)

Annual Conference

Covered for Volunteers

(not to exceed \$500 in any month without pre-approval by the Operations Officer.)

Auto

(mileage log with an enumeration of their general purpose by auto at IRS rate for volunteers instead of gasoline receipts)

OR

Actual travel expenses (as presented by receipts)

AND

Hotel and Meals

when on conference business

Ministry Session Minutes, Continued

EXPENSE ACCOUNT POLICY, continued FOR CONFERENCE EMPLOYEES AND VOLUNTEERS

CHAIR, FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

OPERATIONS OFFICER

TREASURER

ADOPTED ON _____, 2023

ELECTRONIC ACCOUNTABLE REIMBURSEMENT PRACTICE SUGGESTED

Substantiation may be captured by Expensify, a mobile app or web version, including mileage tracking features. Direct the report submission to ETX conference Melio inbox at eastertexasconference_225@invoicemelio.com. After receiving an email requesting payment preference, the employee or volunteer provides bank information to deposit the payment directly into their bank account.

Ministry Session Minutes, Continued

EASTERN TEXAS CONFERENCE OF THE GLOBAL METHODIST CHURCH ACCOUNTING POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

CASH DISBURSEMENT PROCESS

Recording, Safeguarding and Accounting for Cash Disbursements

Focus on Internal Accounting Controls:

- Safeguarding and detection of unauthorized cash disbursements
- Proper recording of cash disbursements in the cash disbursements/payable system
- Appropriate level of approvals to support cash disbursements
- Timely reconciliation of cash disbursements records to bank statements

Cash Disbursements Sources:

- Checks
- Debit and Credit Cards
- Other Electronic Means

Individuals Involved in Cash Disbursements Process:

- Conference Administrative Assistant (CAA)
- Conference Chief Operating Officer (COO)
- Conference Treasurer

Accounting Procedures for Cash Disbursements:

1. Cash Disbursements are to be supported by one or more of the following source documents:
 - a. Vendor invoices supported by appropriate approval and documentation
 - b. Check requests and appropriate supporting documentation where payments are not otherwise supported by an invoice
 - c. Staff/Pastor Business Expense Reimbursement reports and appropriate supporting documentation
 - d. The COO has the primary responsibility to code disbursements to appropriate general ledger accounts
2. Preparation of Checks
 - a. The CAA has the primary responsibility to initiate the preparation of checks through the QuickBooks System
 - b. Non-budgeted expenses must be approved in advance by the COO before check preparation is initiated
 - c. Check numbers are computer assigned by the QuickBooks System though manual exceptions are allowed as necessary
 - d. Blank check stock is maintained in a locked desk drawer accessible only by the CAA and the COO
 - e. Voided checks are logged separately; if possible, such are to be kept in a locked file cabinet with the signature area removed.

Ministry Session Minutes, Continued

CASH DISBURSEMENT PROCESS, continued

3. Signature and Mailing
 - a. Signature authority is limited to the COO and others [dual signatures are required for disbursements in excess of \$5,000] as approved by the Finance Committee
 - b. Once signed, the CAA encloses checks into envelopes along with appropriate supporting documentation and then posts the envelopes inside the nearest post office.
4. The Treasurer is responsible for the creation and updating of the Chart of Accounts
5. Cash transactions by wire transfer are not allowed
6. Other Electronic Means of Payments include automatic payments for subscriptions and medical insurance drafts
7. Debit Card Transactions
 - a. A limited number of debit cards exist to cover petty cash transactions
 - b. Debit cards are safeguarded in a locked desk draft along with blank check stock
 - c. Documentation is required to support each transaction
 - d. Debit card usage is limited to those who are authorized in advance by the COO to use the card
 - e. Debit card usage is to be recorded in the accounting records shortly after the needed purchase has been incurred
8. Employee Credit Cards
 - a. The Conference provides VISA credit cards to selected employees who regularly make expenditures on behalf of the Conference
 - b. Requests for credit cards must be approved by the Treasurer or the Chair of the Finance Committee
 - c. Prior to the receipt of a conference credit card, the employee must sign an employee credit card agreement acknowledging responsibility to use such card
 - d. Assigned credit limits are to be determined by the Treasurer.
 - e. Should an employee need a temporary increase in the card limit to meet a specific need, such limit may be temporarily increased by the Treasurer upon submission of a written request by the card holder
 - f. Employees are to provide a timely accounting of credit card expenses and documentation in advance of payment by the Conference Office.
9. On a monthly basis, the Treasurer will reconcile the QuickBooks book balance of cash to the balance reflected on the bank statement. As a part of the reconciliation process, the Treasurer will review the following:
 - a. Sequence of QuickBooks System generated check numbers
 - b. All disbursements clearing the bank account are properly recorded in the Conference accounting records
 - c. Any checks remaining outstanding for in excess of sixty days will be researched and, if necessary, a stop payment issued and the disbursement reissued

Ministry Session Minutes, Continued

CASH DISBURSEMENT PROCESS, continued

10. Budgeting

- a. Accounting budgets are required to be prepared annually
- b. The COO and the Chair of the Finance Committee are responsible for the preparation of the annual budget (and the monthly spreading of such annual budget)
- c. The annual budget is submitted to the Annual Conference meeting for approval after having been approved by the Connectional Conference
- d. The COO is responsible for the monitoring of variances of budget to actual expenditures on a monthly basis which are then reported to the Executive Staff

Ministry Session Minutes, Continued

EASTERN TEXAS CONFERENCE OF THE GLOBAL METHODIST CHURCH ACCOUNTING POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

CASH RECEIPTS PROCESS

Recording, Safeguarding and Accounting for Cash Receipts

Focus on Internal Accounting Controls:

To safeguard and prevent the interception of cash receipts prior to initial recording

- Safeguarding and detecting the interception of cash receipts subsequent to initial recording
- Proper recording of cash receipts in the cash receipts system
- Safe and timely deposit of funds into approved bank accounts
- Timely reconciliation of deposit records to bank statements

Cash Receipts Sources

- Checks received through the mail
- Online receipt
- Currency and checks received from event collections

Individuals Involved in Cash Receipts Process:

- Conference Administrative Assistant (CAA)
- Conference Chief Operating Officer (COO)
- Conference Treasurer
- **Event Leaders**

Flow of Cash Receipts Through Accounting System:

1. The CAA is responsible for opening the mail from the U.S. Postal Service or third-party delivery services. Upon receipt of checks, the CAA restrictively endorses each check using a **“for deposit only”** stamp and then logs individual checks into the QuickBooks “Payments to Deposit” log in batches of 10. An example of the QuickBooks Deposit Summary is available upon request.
2. In advance of the actual bank deposit, the CAA secures undeposited checks (and small amounts of cash) in a locked drawer in her desk. Only the CAA and the COO have access to the key unlocking the desk drawer.
3. Actual receipts of currency at the Eastern Texas Conference office are infrequent and de minimis in amount.

Ministry Session Minutes, Continued

CASH RECEIPTS PROCESS, continued

4. Electronic cash receipts are received through:
 - a. Online transfers through the Conference bank account at Amegy Bank;
or
 - b. Automated Clearing House (ACH) transfers received through Melio or other web-based cash transfer applications.
5. On a daily basis, the CAA downloads notifications of electronic cash receipts for the primary purpose of matching deposits to invoices and adding posted deposits to the downloaded deposits. The CAA then posts electronic deposits to the QuickBooks “Payments to Deposit” log in the same manner as actual checks to be deposited.
6. Receipts of currency arise primarily from conference events where offerings/sales proceeds are received. Event leader(s) is (are) responsible for collecting and safeguarding currency in **tamper-proof** bags. If host location is a church, their finance Department makes deposit then cuts a check to the Eastern Texas Conference upon settlement of expenses.
7. On a weekly basis, the CAA will prepare a deposit slip and take the deposit (in a zippered bag) to the closest **associated bank** branch. The CAA will obtain a validated deposit receipt to substantiate the amount of funds deposited – such validated deposit slip to later be independently reconciled to the QuickBooks Cash Receipts Log by the Treasurer as referenced below.
8. On a monthly basis, the Treasurer will reconcile the QuickBooks book balance of cash to the balance reflected on the bank statement. As a part of the reconciliation process, the Treasurer will weekly reconcile deposited funds from the validated deposit slip against to the Cash Receipts Log initially prepared by the CAA and the QuickBooks Deposit Summary.

Ministry Session Minutes, Continued


These policies have been created by a subgroup of the Finance and Administration Committee, reviewed by your Conference staff and approved by the Finance and Administration Committee. These policies were then subsequently reviewed and approved by the Conference Connectional Council. They are part of this report, and they need your approval. The Connectional Council and the Finance and Administration Committee are also recommending to the Annual Conference that we institute a cap on connectional giving to the Annual Conference. We are recommending that we approve a cap, so that no church in the Annual Conference contributes more than 25% of the Annual Conference's total income. Should be an example on the screen.

Finance & Administration

Ministry Session Report

Example | Conference Connectional Funding Cap

- Total Income for the Conference is \$1,000,000 the 25% cap is \$250,000.
- Conference Connectional Funding percentage is 1.75%
- Church A's operating income is 15,000,000.
- The Connectional funding obligation would be 262,500.
- Therefore, church A's Connectional Funding obligation would be \$250,000.



EASTERN TEXAS | 2023 ANNUAL CONFERENCE | GLOBAL METHODIST CHURCH
Rev. Mike Tyson | Chair, ETXGMC Finance Committee

The rationale behind this is that we as a conference do not become overly dependent on the funding of a single church. We believe that this protects us. At this time, it's not anticipated that any church will fall under this cap, but this is the example. So, if our Conference income is \$1,000,000 dollars. The 25% cap would be \$250,000 dollars. If our Conference connectional giving rate is 1.75%, we use that number times your operating income that you provide to us. If church A is operating income as \$15 million dollars, their obligation would be \$262,500 dollars. Because we have this cap in place, their actual connectional giving to the Conference would be the capped amount at \$250,000 dollars. Again, we believe that this protects us as a Conference from becoming dependent on any one church.

Ministry Session Minutes, Continued

Eastern Texas Annual Conference Budgets

	<u>2023 Revised Budget</u>	<u>Proposed 2024 Budget</u>
Conference Connectional Giving rate	1.00%	1.75%
Collection rate		95.00%
7000 Personnel Expenses		
7200 Payroll Expenses		
7210 Salaries & Wages	231,933	335,000
7220 Pension	10,935	14,160
7230 Clergy Housing Allowance	72,334	88,600
7240 Accountable Reimbursements	2,000	0
7260 Clergy SECA Allowance	14,529	18,482
7270 Health Insurance	18,208	26,220
7280 FICA tax	4,081	4,590
Total 7200 Payroll Expenses	354,020	487,052
Future Staff Development	0	300,000
Total 7000 Personnel Expenses	354,020	787,052
8000 Supporting Expenses		
8100 Administrative Expenses		
8110 Supplies	7,800	8,000
8125 Software & Technology	4,600	5,000
8130 Hospitality	4,800	6,000
8140 Shipping & Postage	300	500
8145 Communications General	12,400	25,000
8170 Printing & Photocopying	3,000	5,000
8175 Advertising & Marketing	2,000	2,000
8180 Bank Fees & Service Charges	300	1,200
Total 8100 Administrative Expenses	35,200	52,700
8500 Other Expenses		
8520 Insurance		
8521 Liability Insurance	8,000	10,000
Total 8500 Other Expenses	8,000	10,000
Total 8000 Supporting Expenses	43,200	62,700
Total Expenditures	595,445	1,635,352
Net Revenue	166,555	50,396

Ministry Session Minutes, Continued

It is the goal of the Finance and Administration Committee to keep the connectional funding request from the Annual Conference as low as possible. Throughout 2023, we have maintained our Conference connectional funding at 1% of a churches operating income. Moving into 2024, we anticipate adding some additional staff and we, as a Conference, are trying to move towards supporting the churches of the Eastern Texas Conference by equipping now as well as partnering with an international Global Methodist Church Conference. We're still exploring how and with whom we will partner. We are committing \$110,000 dollars in 2024 to this partnership. We are planning to partner with various new church starts around the Conference for a total of \$200,000 dollars in 2024, with no one (1) church receiving more than \$50,000 dollars. Further, we are committing to our Hispanic and Black Initiatives, a total between the two (2) of \$150,000 dollars to help grow healthy leadership and prospering churches in these important these vital areas of the Eastern Texas Conference. As all pension and benefits are being handled at the Denominational level, we are not required currently to staff for any of the administrative positions to handle the details of those pensions and benefits. Your Finance and Administration Committee and your Connectional Council are committed to keeping the Conference as lean as possible and yet still do an excellent job supporting each of you in your churches and in your ministries. We remain leery of creating any kind of bureaucracy, any kind of bureaucratic system that might sap the resources and vitality of our local churches. You will see as a part of our budget for 2024, we are requesting that the Conference approve a Conference Connectional Funding Rate of 1.75%.

You will see that highlighted in blue on page 36 to indicate that that is an action item for the Annual Conference. *(included on next page)*.

Ministry Session Minutes, Continued

This is a three-quarter (3/4%) percent increase over our current one percent (1%) rate. This will allow us to make the investments in our local and international churches, that we believe will serve the Kingdom of God. This rate will also allow for adequate funding for Conference staff. This one-point-seven-five (1.75%) compares to five percent (5%) in the Mid Tex Conference and three percent (3%) in the West Plains Conference, our sister conferences in Texas.

You also find an addendum for the 2023-2024 budget on page 51 in the Conference Journal.

Payroll Expenses - ETXGMC

	<u>Budgeted</u>	<u>Budgeted</u>
	<u>Total 2023</u>	<u>Total 2024</u>
<u>President Pro-Tem</u>		
Salary	\$88,333	\$100,000
Clergy SECA Allowance	\$6,758	\$7,650
Accountable Reimbursements	<u>\$2,000</u>	<u>\$0</u>
Total President Pro-Tem	<u>\$97,091</u>	<u>\$107,650</u>
<u>Executive Officer</u>		
Salary	\$66,917	\$100,000
Clergy Housing Allowance	\$34,667	\$41,600
Clergy SECA Allowance	\$7,771	\$10,832
Pension	\$10,935	\$14,160
Health Insurance	<u>\$18,208</u>	<u>\$26,220</u>
Total Executive Officer	<u>\$138,498</u>	<u>\$192,812</u>
<u>Operating Officer</u>		
Salary	\$23,333	\$75,000
Clergy Housing Allowance	<u>\$32,667</u>	<u>\$35,000</u>
Total Operating Officer	<u>\$56,000</u>	<u>\$110,000</u>
<u>Treasurer</u>		
Clergy Housing Allowance	<u>\$5,000</u>	<u>\$12,000</u>
Total Treasurer	<u>\$5,000</u>	<u>\$12,000</u>
<u>Administrative Help</u>		
Salary	\$53,350	\$60,000
FICA tax	<u>\$4,081</u>	<u>\$4,590</u>
Total Administrative Help	<u>\$57,431</u>	<u>\$64,590</u>
Subtotal	<u>\$354,020</u>	<u>\$487,052</u>
Future Staff Development	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$300,000</u>
Total Payroll Expenses	<u><u>\$354,020</u></u>	<u><u>\$787,052</u></u>

Ministry Session Minutes, Continued

These are the staffing costs of the Annual Conference. We lift this up to you to be as transparent as possible. You will see that there is a category that is called future staff development. That is there to accommodate the future needs of the Conference, as we move into 2024. All hiring of Conference staff will be vetted and recommended by a Conference Personnel Committee and all Director or Officer-level staff will be approved by the Connectional Council.

You can send your connectional giving to the Eastern Texas Conference, here, (referencing Screen) or you can call and set up a Melio account where it's an automated giving account. I submit this report and these actions to you for your approval.



EASTERN TEXAS | 2023 ANNUAL CONFERENCE | GLOBAL METHODIST CHURCH

Bishop Jones:

This report is properly before you from your Finance Committee. I don't see anybody moving to speak on the matter. I put it to you for a vote, **if you will approve this Financial Report with the Policies included, would you say 'Yes'? Any opposed, 'No'? And it's done.** Mike, thank you and your team for this hard work and (inaudible).

Drew Essen:

Strategic Planning Report, Pages 33-34, Pre-Conference Journal

Before we call for the approval of the Strategic Framework, I want to share one more story with you.

[Video: The Stories We Tell: Dr. Robert Childress, Covenant Glen Church](#)

Presentation of the Strategic Planning Team Report and Strategic Framework.
(Shown on next page.)

Ministry Session Minutes, Continued

2023 EASTERN TEXAS CONFERENCE

STRATEGIC PLANNING REPORT

By Drew Essen

In November of 2022, the Strategic Planning Team was formed at the direction of President Pro Tempore Jim Welch and Executive Officer Jason Burnham as the Eastern Texas Conference began to take a more defined shape. Rev. Welch, Rev. Burnham, and the Connectional Council were already beginning to cast a compelling vision for our Conference's exciting, Spirit-filled, lay-led future, and we were charged with examining our Conference framework to determine how we could begin to define and achieve that vision. We assembled an incredible team of lay and clergy leaders from different backgrounds, church sizes, and locations and began to discern where the Holy Spirit was calling us.

As a first step of this discernment, we wanted to gather feedback from as many people as possible. The team sent over 2000 surveys to conference members and held 30+ one-on-one interviews, including with our Bishops and denominational leadership. The feedback we received was constructive, highly encouraging, and made us more excited than ever to be a part of the work God is doing in the Eastern Texas Conference of the Global Methodist Church.

From our surveys and interviews, we heard that we wanted to be a Christ-centered, lay-empowered, truly Global Church made up of every tribe, tongue, and nation. We heard that we want to return to our deep Wesleyan roots of intentional discipleship and risk-taking evangelism. We heard that we wanted to be a conference that raises the next generation of Methodist leaders, both clergy and lay. We heard that there was a desire to return decision-making abilities to the local congregations and leaders that make up our conference. Finally, we heard overwhelmingly from you that we wanted to invest our time, talent, and treasure to witness a broken world that so desperately needs the love and grace of Jesus Christ. The good news is that this is not only an aspirational goal, but something already happening in our midst. I look forward to sharing stories with you at the conference about how our churches, of every size, shape, and make up are already living into this vision that we as a Conference are developing together.

We also heard that we need a way to organize all these efforts so that like John Wesley, we can share in a methodical and strategic way to make disciples of Jesus Christ who worship passionately, love extravagantly, and witness boldly.

This brought our team to identify and create a strategic framework that we will be seeking your approval on when we gather in College Station. This framework is not necessarily a strategic plan, but rather a way that we will be organizing our shared work together moving forward.

In our study, we heard that defining the roles of members, churches, and the Conference was an essential step in gaining clarity in our ministry, so this led to our strategic framework being as follows:

(Continued on next page)

Ministry Session Minutes, Continued

Strategic Planning, continued

Strategic Framework

Members Disciple

— Matthew 28:16-20 —

Examples

- Members become disciples
- Members grow as disciples
- Members serve as disciples
- Members make disciples

Churches Multiply

— 1 Corinthians 3:5-7 —

Examples

- Churches multiply churches
- Churches multiply lay and clergy leaders
- Churches multiply resources for one another

Conference Equips

— Ephesians 4:11-12 —

Examples

- Conference equips by discovering, developing, and deploying pastoral leaders
 - Conference equips by providing resources and training
- Conference equips by bringing churches together into true connectionalism

By providing simple, one-word roles for each level of our conference, we will have clarity on how each part works together to achieve our Holy Spirit guided mission and vision. This framework will be a way that our strategic aims and initiatives will be organized and provide us all a shared language as we pursue the story that God is writing for our conference.

We are excited to discover with you the application of this methodology and seek your endorsement for us to continue our work. With your endorsement and approval of this framework, our team will begin working with all of you on how we can lay out gospel centered aims and initiatives over the next year. We then plan to bring back clear and concise goals at our next gathering.

Thank you for your time and attention and praise be to God for our shared work in this new Methodist movement. We look forward to being with you all soon in College Station.

Ministry Session Minutes, Continued

Bishop Jones:

If you will approve this Strategic Planning Team Report and Strategic Framework, would you say 'Yes'? Any opposed, 'No'? (none). And it's approved.

Bishop Jones:

Episcopal Address:

"I started praying for renewal years ago. I'm Bishop of thirteen (13) Annual Conferences." Bishop Jones shared accounts of a church in the Philippines which meets in a movie theater and had thirteen (13) certificates of conversion; of the Mid-Texas youth camp, Revive, with 410 young people attending. From these 410 youth, there were 70 professions of faith and 28 came forward as feeling called to full-time ministry. "I have known lots of people who used to go to youth meeting and gave their life to Christ. I teach at Truitt on Wesleyan History, Transformational Discipleship Systems. I know pastors for three (3) small churches in the Waco area. Churches with bands - with ages between 16-90. Transforming people into real Christianity, engaged in all ministries, fully committed to modeling ministry. John Wesley was afraid we would lack power but have form - noted our job is to recommit to what Methodist was at it's very best. I started at age 15, in 1970, and think what's happened in that time." Bishop Jones suggested the one of the biggest distractions was a mission statement, where we found lots of other ways to disperse time, talents and money. "The main thing is to keep the main thing the main thing - To make disciples... It starts with you all in your local churches. We are going to continue to call you to keep the main thing the main thing. As Bishop, how joyful I am to be serving alongside you."

Jason Burnham:

Thank you expressed to Methodist Children's Home for providing our lunch. Welcome expressed to Trey Oakley, President and CEO" MCH is a resource for churches, with Houston and Tyler offices.

Jason Burnham:

Breaking news: this was the only church large enough to hold Conference. Now we have three (3) churches large enough. Our next Annual Conference will be June 19-22, 2024, in First Methodist Church in Shreveport, LA. Thank you, Christ Church, for hosting us twice. Prayer offered by Jason Burnham, before dismissing for lunch.

Ministry Session adjourned at 12:22 pm.

Respectfully submitted by
Jill Krone
Recording Secretary
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MINISTRY REPORT

Clergy Bands Task Force

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There is no holiness apart from social holiness. — John Wesley

Our Task Force exists to encourage, support, and resource ETXGMC Clergy as they form life-giving connections with other clergypersons in small, same-gender, accountability groups. Following the example of John Wesley and in the context of authentic relationships, we band together because our desire, as Clergy in the GMC, is to be perfected in love. We know this is impossible to do alone and that banded discipleship is a proven model for reaching our highest calling.

With this in mind, we invite our clergy to either form their groups or let us help them establish groups that take on a variety of forms. Some bands meet in person, others virtually, and others are hybrid. A band consists of 3-5 people who read together, pray together, and meet together to become the love of God for one another and the world. Bands typically meet weekly, and the primary curriculum is the lives of the band members around a few probing questions:

1. How is it with your soul?
2. What are your struggles and successes?
3. How might the Spirit and Scriptures be speaking in your life?
4. Do you have any sins that you want to confess?
5. Are there any secrets or hidden things you would like to share?

As a task force, we have no desire to reinvent a process that has already been established. These questions can be found on the free Discipleship Band App or at this website: discipleshipbands.com

Please visit etxgmc.org/clergy-bands to read more about clergy bands and fill out the survey to inform us that you already have a band or need one. At this point, we have had a great response to this survey, we have already had several virtual meet-n-greets for those looking for band members, and multiple bands have formed. For those who are not yet banded, we will have an opportunity to meet face-to-face with others looking for a band at our July conference. The conference schedule will clarify when/where these meetings will occur.

As a task force, we aren't here to require anything but to invite you into life-giving relationships that will hold you close to our Lord and sustain you in ministry. To God be the glory!

2023 EASTERN TEXAS CONFERENCE

EXHIBITORS

Here is a selected list of ministry partners that are hosting tables in our Exhibits area at Annual Conference.

Celebration Women's Ministry, Inc.

Celebration is a woman-to-woman ministry of sharing, encouraging, discipling, and mentoring in the faith. Luke 4:18-19 is our theme scripture with a three-part focus of Salvation, Healing and Equipping. Our mission is to serve as a covenant of grace for all women who seek to discover their freedom and healing in Christ through sharing in experiences of praise and worship, personal witness, and testimony, prayer, Bible study, and fellowship. Celebration is not a para-church organization. We always encourage and expect members to fully participate in the local church.

Churchcraft Consulting

Churchcraft® offers pastors three key benefits. 1) Relationship: Pastors are mentored by Dr. Tom Harrison and Dr. Stephanie Hurd. They also form a supportive community of peers, 2) Growth: Pastors gain additional soft skills, navigational tools, and experiential knowledge to help them thrive in a church environment, and 3) Experience: Pastors take a formative 13-day pilgrimage to the Holy Land with their mentors and a prominent Israeli guide.

Educational Opportunities Tours

Educational Opportunities Tours is a Christian travel ministry that has been delivering Christian journeys of a lifetime for almost 50 years. Travelers have joined EO around the world on Holy Land pilgrimages, Bible land expeditions – by land and sea, Church heritage tours, retreat cruises, and cultural explorations. EO's travel experts and on-site hospitality staff serve each guest by handling all travel details and ensuring safety and health throughout each journey; curated itineraries, educational resources, and guest speakers create unique experiences that change individual lives, ministry, and the Church.

Effective Leadership In Ministry

Coaching is a relationship! Coaching for Pastors, Pastor Groups, Training/Team Coaching for congregations regarding Simplified Accountable Structure (Single Board Model).

ETXGMC International Ministries

The Eastern Texas Conference International Ministries team provides resources to assist local churches in the strategic engagement of International Ministries around the world. For additional information, visit Wesleyan Network for Global Mission globalmethodist.world

ETXGMC NexGen Ministries

The NexGen Ministries of the Eastern Texas Conference supports and encourages ministry to youth and young adults.

Friends For Life

We are a charity providing services to help the elderly and people with disabilities live the fullest life possible.

EXHIBITORS, continued

Omega Travel

Omega Travel is a full service travel agency specializing in Holy Land tours, church group travel, Middle East and Europe group tours, faith based travel, cruises and travel packages.

Lakeview

Lakeview offers fun-filled, life-changing experiences through retreats, conferences, camp, team building programs, and other avenues. Lakeview currently offers three weeks of residential summer camp. Established in 1947, Lakeview consists of more than 1,300 acres, with the capacity of 1,300 people, located outside of Palestine, Texas, which was recently named one of the top travel destinations in Texas.

Methodist Children's Home

Although the name has changed through the years and the program of care has adapted to the needs of those they serve, Methodist Children's Home (MCH) remains true to their mission to equip children, youth and families to flourish by offering hope through Christ-centered relationships, services and support. Founded in 1890, MCH is a nationally accredited, nonprofit childcare ministry that relies on the generosity and support of individuals and churches which empowers all we serve to experience life to the fullest.

OneChild Zimbabwe

OneChild: Connecting Sponsors With Kids Through Community. As a OneChild sponsor, you can bring hope and life-changing care to children living in poverty through our global community.

Purposed Heart Ministries

Helping churches develop stronger worship one service at a time. Our goal at Purposed Heart Ministries is to partner with churches in any state or anywhere in the world to begin a transformation from worship services rooted in we worship the way we always have into we worship with vision and intentionality!

Seedbed

Discipleship, worship, youth and children, leadership resources.

SHIP International

SHIP International is a Bryan, Texas-based nonprofit, focused on sharing the love of Jesus Christ in a small neighborhood in El Salvador and in our local community by working to increase economic stability and safety through educational and financial opportunities and establishing safer housing.

Texas Methodist Foundation

Headquartered in Austin, Texas, Texas Methodist Foundation is a nonprofit organization that offers assistance to Methodists in Texas and New Mexico through investments, loans, grants, leadership, purpose discernment, gift planning, and endowment services. Texas Methodist Foundation seeks to empower the purpose of the church, which is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. We do this by galvanizing financial resources and courageous leadership to create communities rooted in God's love who take action to bring about the potential of a better world.

EXHIBITORS, continued

Travel With Friends

Christian based Group Travel Agency that specializes in trips to the Holy Land, Greece, Italy, etc.

U.M. ARMY

Providing Christ-centered missions that serve people in need and promote spiritual growth and leadership development in youth and young adults.

United Theological Seminary

At United Theological Seminary, theological education is about more than simply earning your degree. United is a place where academic preparation intersects with spiritual formation and practical application for the work of ministry in the world.

Wesley Biblical Seminary

If God has called you, a program at Wesley Biblical Seminary will equip you with the knowledge, tools, and skills needed to effectively grow his kingdom.

Wesley House of Studies / Baylor University

At Baylor University's Truett Seminary Wesley House of Studies, we train pastors for local Wesleyan-Methodist churches and ministries. Theological education is a sacred process of preparation and transformation for a Kingdom purpose. Truett students think theologically, practice ministry skills, cultivate community, and grow spiritually as they seek to know Christ and make him known.

Wespath

Peter Hang, who has been with Wespath since 1999, will be available to answer retirement and health related questions. He will have information on how clergy can register for an individual/private online consultation with a Wespath Benefits Educator. Learn more about the clergy retirement plan (Covenant) and health benefits (Health-Flex) that Wespath Benefits and Investments provides to the Global Methodist Church. Wespath is dedicated to building a brighter future for all those they serve, with 100 years of success and sustainability behind their retirement plans, investment solutions and health benefit plans. Wespath will continue to offer free and optional service like LifeStage Investment Management, EY Financial Planning Services, and the updated LifeStage Retirement Income to clergy and lay participants of the GMC

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