

Beth Woods

Hickory District- First Methodist (Conover)

Ethnicity- Caucasian

Share your testimony of coming to faith and salvation in Jesus Christ.

I grew into faith as a young girl, being raised by parents who prioritized church. I am blessed to have older sisters who nurtured my faith too. I remember responding to an altar call at a Sunday evening worship service, realizing that I had to make the decision to follow Christ for myself. I was 9 years old. It was still a journey after that, with several major growth steps happening throughout my high school and college years. Each experience with God was another piece of the foundation of my faith. Being a parent myself has added to my understanding of God's unconditional love. I now celebrate 50 years of salvation, but realize that the growth in faith is lifelong, and not always a straight line. Even now, I have times when I allow the stresses of the world or my worries about my loved ones to bog me down. But time after time, I've turned back to Jesus. He is my peace in a crazy world and He is my strength always. I wish I could say I never forget this, but I'm human. I CAN say that He has always been faithful to pull me back and remind me of my place as His child.

Describe your ministry in the name of Jesus Christ.

My primary ministry for the past 30+ years has been as a homeschooling mom to five children and wife to a Methodist minister. In that role, I volunteered in almost every capacity at the eight churches we've served. Now an empty-nester, I was hired (Oct 2023) full-time at our current church as the Coordinator of Lay Ministries. I'm discovering every week exactly what that job encompasses (!) but at the core of it, I facilitate ministry at every level from nursery to retirees. My main focus is to serve and love and provide opportunities for growth and ministry. I also coordinate most of our digital communication and outreach.

Our congregation is primarily elderly, but they have a strong heart for children and young families. So, right now the majority of my time is spent building up our ministries to children. We are also putting a lot of attention to community outreach with large events such as our upcoming Easter Prayer Walk and to fellowship events such as small group meals. I'm also involved in encouraging and facilitating prayer support for all church activities.

Service in the General Conference is a special task. Explain your understanding of this task.

As the wife of a former United Methodist, now Global Methodist minister, I have seen firsthand how important it is to have sound doctrine and clear accountability. My husband and I have been anticipating the events of the past few years for at least 25 years, as we have witnessed the straying from orthodox doctrine. We considered leaving the United Methodist Church many times over the past three decades, but did not feel "released." Sometimes I wish we had, because I see some of the detrimental effects from those years still in my adult children. All of this puts me in a position to appreciate the importance of wisely setting Biblically sound doctrine and creating a structure that will protect the integrity of that doctrine.

I don't consider myself "political" in that I don't jockey for position or recognition, so honestly I've resisted even applying to be a delegate. But I do have a strong understanding of what has happened through the disaffiliation process and a firm belief in the importance

of what the Global Methodist Church is doing now. I'm willing to do whatever I can to help ensure a strong future for the GMC and its ministry to the Kingdom.

What gifts/strengths/passions/talents do you bring to the building up and organizing of the Global Methodist Church?

I'm a deep thinker, problem-solver, and I think outside the "box." I'm not bogged down by "the way we've always done it" thinking. I am passionate about the importance of the local church and its ministries and have many years of experience in a variety of different churches. I am also dedicated to keeping up with the current events of the Global Methodist Church.

Most importantly of all, I'm committed to Jesus Christ and doing anything I can to spread the Biblical Truth of the Gospel. I do not shy away from taking a stand for Truth.

Do you agree to fast and pray for your role and the delegation to the General Conference? Yes

Do you attend worship at your church at least 3 out of 4 Sunday's a month? Yes

Do you attend worship when on vacation, out of town, or not otherwise in the church to which you are appointed? Yes

Are you a part of a small group, Sunday School class or band? Yes

Are you involved in Christian missions at least once a month? Yes

Do you pray regularly for your church, pastor, and members? Yes

Do you give a full tithe to the church of your membership? Yes

Do you uphold and agree with the Doctrinal Standards of the GMC as stated in Part 1 of the Transitional Book of Doctrines and Discipline? Yes

Do you uphold and agree with the Social Witness of the GMC as stated in Part 2 of the Transitional Book of Doctrines and Discipline? Yes

If elected will you agree to represent Jesus Christ and uphold the integrity of the GMC NC PAC? Yes

Do you have a current U.S. Passport? Yes

In order to serve, will you be available to travel to Costa Rica from September 19-27, 2024 and attend online meetings ahead of the conference? Yes

Are you willing and able to bear some of the cost for attendance to serve in this capacity? Yes

I once again affirm that I satisfy the requirements to be a delegate to the Convening General Conference of the Global Methodist Church. Yes

I consent for my answers to be published on the NCPAC website. Yes