

Carolyn Heller

New Bern District- Core Creek Methodist

Ethnicity- Caucasian

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

I thought I knew Christ. I was raised Catholic and went to parochial school through 5th grade. I said my prayers before bedtime and attended church on Sundays. If I went to a wedding, I filled my obligation for going to church that week. It wasn't until I got married and went to church with my husband that I began to have a relationship with Jesus Christ. I remember during a praise song, I felt a warm feeling inside and my hand raised to Jesus. (I was embarrassed that I had never felt that way before.) I was still a babe in Christ. When my husband passed, I delved into the Bible. I learned about the abounding love and joy of Jesus Christ. I now know Jesus as my Savior, my friend, and my partner. I pray incessantly and want to know more about Him, more about His abounding love. I start my morning with prayer - Heavenly Father, In the name of Jesus, I surrender all to the Holy Spirit. Fill me with your grace, and have me live the life you have set for me. I am a principal of a school and I pray for His wisdom, and insight for discernment in all that I do. I pray for Him to take me by my right hand and walk with me. It is so comforting and peaceful to know that He is with me and that He keeps His promises. I give God all the glory.

Describe your ministry in the name of Jesus Christ.

My ministry as a lay person in Christ Jesus is to surrender all to him. I pray every morning that I lead the life that He has set for me. This gives me the strength and encouragement to go throughout my day. I volunteer in the church office working on bulletins, assisting the Pastor in planning and conducting church events. I assist the treasurer with her duties. I am also a member of several committees of the church; Prayer Team, Worship Committee, Women in God's Service, N.O.W, (Nurture, Outreach and Witness) and the Finance Committee. I am an Usher and Lector during church services. I assist in organizing youth events and working with youth during summer programs. I provide Bible Studies at a group home for women with drug addictions, and volunteer at Hope Mission serving food. I give my time and talents to serve God.

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

General Conference enacts policies that affect the worldwide church. Especially, this general conference gathering, being our first, will be precedent setting in that we will determine matters in ways that will have a long-lasting impact. Overtime, some of those may need to change, but going into this conference, we must seek to honor God in all our decisions. We can only do this by seeking His guidance with prayer and fasting and then listening to his direction.

We must be careful that the policies enacted in General Conference are equitable and fair to Global Methodist Congregations around the world, and honoring to God in all situations. Being a teacher and an administrator in education of young people, I think I will bring a necessary point-of-view to the world-wide Global Methodist Conference.

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

I love the Lord! I want to serve Him by serving the people around me and the church I love. I have been an educator for 42 years and have concentrated in special education and administration. This gives me a unique insight into the needs of people who are not in the mainstream. Part of my giftedness is in figuring out ways to include those not in the mainstream into the ongoing activities of life, and especially the life of the church. As an administrator, my decisions often carry long term consequences. Fair and equitable decision making is crucial. For me, this necessitates seeking the council of God in all matters, even those which appear mundane on the surface, because we can never know how far-reaching the effects of our decisions go.

I love actively serving the Lord and moving as God directs with guidance of the Holy Spirit through prayer. Seeking the Lord's guidance through prayer and fasting will be important in all of the decisions we will be asked to make at General Conference.

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