

Greg Grabbs

Burlington District- Concord Church (Roxboro)

Ethnicity- Caucasian

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

I attended church as a kid. It was a welcoming place to a young boy new to North Carolina, and new to church. I served as an acolyte often and spent time with Johnny Branch, the pastor. This service helped instill Concord as a safe place.

After high school I moved away to work and church never became a priority. A few years later I returned to my home town and built a house, but church was never a priority. It wasn't until the sudden passing of my father that I began to see the love of Jesus. My parents had drifted from church and hadn't attended in years but the elders I remember growing up showed up at my father's funeral. The now retired pastor Karl Neuschaefer presided and his message inspired my wife and I to get into church.

We said if we go we are going to fully commit not just on Sundays. I immediately found my place helping with stew, fall harvest, missions, and outreach. Mission work is where I found Jesus, and experienced His magnificent power. I was asked to join the early response team, and attended an UMCOR certification class. This type of work is where I learned my God given talents.

I grew up poor and watched my parents struggle to provide. I followed my father in trade work and struggled to provide. Everything I owned was a hand me down or throw away, I spent more time working on than using. I wasted so many years of my life angry, questioning why God made everything so difficult for me. Now my eyes have been opened. These gifts and talents are exactly what God needs to do his mission work.

In 2021 He sent me to Lake Charles, Louisiana where He showed me where His people were truly suffering. We only had three volunteers commit to clean up efforts one thousand miles away, in a poor town beaten by three hurricanes, and no power or water. Our Lord prepared every step of the way from the upgraded vehicle that meet our tool and material need, to the man who showed up with a full size pickup when we needed a full sheet of plywood, to the homeless man who passed on sharing lunch with us because he had something (he had pulled from the trash) yet asked we share with his friends a few blocks away because they had nothing to eat. I could recount every minute of this trip as a testimony to His love.

I have served on mission trips after disasters in Hazard, KY, Canton, and Red Oak, NC. The spirit of the people and the trust in the Lord fuel my passion for this mission field. "Praise God in all circumstances" 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18, brings new clarity towards discipleship.

Describe your ministry in the name of Jesus Christ.

I serve as council chair for our missions & outreach and stay actively involved with many areas. We are currently working with My Life Matters youth organization renovating an old schoolhouse into a Christian retreat for youth in rural areas.

My wife and I are involved with the Walk to Emmaus and serve on the Heart of Carolina Board of Reps in the prayer chapel. The Emmaus community is our second church family. We enjoy serving with each of the 72 hour walk weekends behind the scenes in the prayer chapel and on teams.

Mission conference and Emmaus weekends are where I hear God speak to me. Spending hours in worship and prayer with other Christians has opened my heart to hear His calling to serve Him all the time. I prayed for a 5 year plan, for my own selfishness, to be financially secure before starting international missions and He made a way for me in two years. Every time I feel lost or at a dead end in my path, when I finally submit and lay it before Him, He answers.

He continues to open doors and provide a path for my wife and I both to pursue a life of serving Him. We both have enrolled in seminary school and start spring 2024.

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

All things we do and say will be Holy Spirit lead and specifically and intentionally prayed over. We will be tasked with confirming, praying over, and building disciples for Gods kingdom. We will offer our talents and gifts to equip the leaders of GMC. We will work, pray, and worship in community so we may better hear His direction. We will confirm and uphold the guidelines set by GMC and help our fellow churches maintain this discipline.

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

My background in trade work (electrical,plumbing,HVAC) prepared me for mission work and enables me to lead teams including early response after natural disasters . I have OSHA training and a love for helping others.

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

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