



## JOHN BENSON

Laity

Once Hope Global Methodist  
Church / Bradenton

### **1. How do you understand the purpose of the Global Methodist Church?**

To take the Truth of Jesus into Florida, the USA, and the World for the salvation of the lost and God's glory.

### **2. In your opinion, what is the most important thing the General Conference needs to accomplish to be considered as a success?**

To protect the Church from the lies of Satan by creating unity within the GMC under the guidance of Holy Spirit.

### **3. Describe some experiences that will be an advantage to your work as a General Conference delegate.**

I have experienced the charlatans in the UMC, at many Annual Conferences, and in the deceitfulness of the UMC General Conference and leadership. I will stand against the lies of Satan to protect the GMC and represent the laity for the glory of God.

### **4. Describe your passion and fruit for sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ.**

I feel an urgency to take the Good News of Jesus to the lost in my community and wherever Holy Spirit leads.

I have been active in numerous outreach opportunities through ministries and personal service locally and in the world.



## ELIZABETH CHRYST

Laity

First Methodist Church /  
Dunnellon

### **1. How do you understand the purpose of the Global Methodist Church?**

To make disciples of Jesus and grow God's kingdom with God's Word as our guide.

### **2. In your opinion, what is the most important thing the General Conference needs to accomplish to be considered as a success?**

To give account to God of our stewardship of the resources God has given us. Additionally, the General Conference should provide community worship, spiritual growth, adopt future goals, and celebrate the ordination of clergy members.

### **3. Describe some experiences that will be an advantage to your work as a General Conference delegate.**

Board service with the Florida WCA chapter, global WCA council service as well as my local church leadership work which allowed my attendance at Florida annual conferences under the UMC.

### **4. Describe your passion and fruit for sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ.**

Through prayer, learning, and practice, I am passionate about growing youth in church. With new youth, the church can grow its leadership cup—and help grow God's kingdom. Christian contemporary music offers a way for youth to express and explore their feelings and emotions. Christian music offers a positive distraction from negative thoughts filling our world. God-centered lyrics help focus the listener on matters related to Jesus and the Christian faith.



## MICHAEL COFFEY

Laity

University Carillon / Oviedo

### 1. How do you understand the purpose of the Global Methodist Church?

I believe that the purpose of the GMC is many things.

- a. First, it is to spread the love and message of Jesus Christ into this world, this hurting world. This will be accomplished in various ways.
  - i. As we hold strong to God's word we become a lifeboat for many who are struggling with a world that says anything and everything is okay. I think that they, like myself, find no comfort or security in a world where there is no integrity.
  - ii. The Global Methodist Church should also be a solid foundation on which we can stand and reach out to others. When we are secure in God's word and open to the task He calls us to, we can reach out to help others. Having more freedom as a church gives us the opportunity to reach those around us based on their needs.
- b. Secondly, the Global Methodist Church, through its structure has done away with many of the things causing the downfall of the United Methodist Church. This purpose allows for a better connection.
  - i. By allowing the churches to not only own their own property, but flexibility to structure outreach to best fit the passions of the church family and needs to the communities we serve, we can better grow God's kingdom.
  - ii. Having the Presiding Elders serve not only their district, but their church as well ensures a better connection between that pastor and the people. It also prevents a hierarchy mentality.
- c. Thirdly, I believe the purpose of the GMC should be helping churches, whether existing or startups, to flourish. Unfortunately the UMC has used the churches as a tool of control rather than an outpouring of the Spirit.

### 2. In your opinion, what is the most important thing the General Conference needs to accomplish to be considered as a success?

I believe the Global Methodist Church, in order to be successful, needs to maintain a firm foundation on which churches can build and grow the Kingdom. Just as John Wesley felt the need to make sure the pastors he worked with were Godly men and dedicated to preaching the Word of God; The GMC needs to make sure the men and women sharing the Word, rather through voice or deed are dedicated to God and called by Him to the task at hand.

### 3. Describe some experiences that will be an advantage to your work as a General Conference delegate.

I believe my past experiences help me to see a bigger picture than many others. First, my age and life experiences help me to see things and issues that others may not. That is not to say I am close minded to new ways to reach the hurting.

- a. I served as a Local Pastor in the United Methodist Church. This gave me an opportunity to see what was working and what was going off track. It was this, off track actions and procedures that caused me to leave the pulpit and return to teaching. I was and still am very active in the local church though, I did not turn away from God at all, but these experiences helped me grow closer to Him.
- b. I serve on our church Serve and Response Team (SRT) which helps with projects and needs around the church, around the community, and with disaster response as well.
- c. I served as the Director of Outreach Ministries for several years. This allowed me several opportunities to go on mission trips. I have been to El Salvador, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Haiti, and with the ZOE Ministry in Kenya. I have seen the needs of people around the world and understand that we need to understand the needs before just rushing in with our American ideas. I love that we are truly a global church.
- d. I currently lead a team of volunteers that make sure our shut-ins, those in rehab, and those in the hospital are visited. I do my best to visit with every person prior to their surgeries. I love seeing their faces when they arrive prior to surgery and see me there. Their demeanor changes from nervous, to being more relaxed and confident that God is with them.
- e. As I mentioned before, I was a schoolteacher. I taught mostly fourth grade. I loved interacting with my students and helping them to achieve. My last eight years were at a private Christian school. It was great to be able to share God in all the subjects. It allowed the students to see that God is in everything. Even before teaching at the Christian school I felt I made a positive impact on my students in the public schools. I would pray over my students' desk each morning before they arrived. I would read my Bible during our Drop Everything And Read (DEAR) time. It was especially rewarding that at the end of the school year, parents would come to me and ask me to pray for their child. I did not preach to nor share Christ with the students in the public school, during school, but somehow the parents knew.

### 4. Describe your passion and fruit for sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

My passion and fruit for sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ comes from my experiences in life. God has called me to do many things. At first I was so hesitant because they were WAY out of my comfort zone. But God showed me that He was with me and would equip me in all that he called me to. My experiences have allowed me to share Christ to many different people. Whether sharing Christ and praying with bikers when I was with the Christian Motorcyclist Association (CMA) to sharing how God saved my life from a tragic car wreck. That really strengthened my faith. God gives me opportunities based on what He knows we can do. I have the passion and He gives me the fruits I need to carry out His will.



## LYNN KIEFER

Laity

First Methodist Church / Vero  
Beach

### **1. How do you understand the purpose of the Global Methodist Church?**

The purpose of the GMC is grow disciples of Jesus Christ, spread the Good News of His sacrifice and share God's love, grace and mercy to all that we encounter in our daily lives. We are to be connected to the world in Service in His name and to stand on, know, and live by the God's holy scripture.

### **2. In your opinion, what is the most important thing the General Conference needs to accomplish to be considered as a success?**

Define clear, objective and efficient means of governance. Looking forward but cognizant of the past to avoid past mistakes.

### **3. Describe some experiences that will be an advantage to your work as a General Conference delegate.**

One of my spiritual gifts is Administration. I have served both on church boards, non-profit boards and secular boards with my former business and bring those experiences to the General Conference. I have prepared bylaws, policies and procedures for several organizations including our church and feel this could help as a General Conference Delegate.

### **4. Describe your passion and fruit for sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ.**

My passion for the Gospel has grown exponentially over the last 10 years. I have used that passion to teach children, youth, and adult bible studies. I am in the scriptures daily to not only grow my relationship with Jesus but to give me the knowledge along with the Holy Spirit promptings to share with others. I recently started the Embrace Ministry at our church, a ministry for women with unplanned pregnancies. Hearing their stories and walking with them through the pain each week, I found myself excited and energized in sharing Christ and God's love with them.



## STAN MONROE

Laity  
Waukeedah Methodist  
Church / Waukeedah

### **1. How do you understand the purpose of the Global Methodist Church?**

Through Biblical interpretation and personal discernment.

### **2. In your opinion, what is the most important thing the General Conference needs to accomplish to be considered as a success?**

Definition of goals and responsibilities.

### **3. Describe some experiences that will be an advantage to your work as a General Conference delegate.**

Lifelong Methodist and servant leader.

Missionary and evangelist.

Local lay leader.

Former Lay Witness Mission coordinator.

### **4. Describe your passion and fruit for sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ.**

My passion for sharing the Gospel is contagious and my fruit is a pineapple.



## MONTEEN PILLAY

Laity

Bridge City Church /  
Jacksonville

### **1. How do you understand the purpose of the Global Methodist Church?**

The purpose of the Global Methodist Church is to be a worldwide church that is based on the Holy Bible, with sound doctrine that is not watered down for the ways of today's world. The goal is to make disciples of Jesus Christ, not just within the walls of the church but in the communities, all while serving others.

### **2. In your opinion, what is the most important thing the General Conference needs to accomplish to be considered as a success?**

First and foremost, approve the Transitional Book of Doctrines and Discipline. Secondly, ensure that everyone is focused on working with the Holy Spirit to "create a new thing" as we move forward with the new church, as we look to the future and just as importantly, leave the past in the past.

### **3. Describe some experiences that will be an advantage to your work as a General Conference delegate.**

I have 30+ years of experience working as a business executive and serving and leading at my church on multiple committees. In both roles, I've had to make tough decisions and ensure that things got done. My strength is decomposing and explaining problems so solutions can be implemented.

### **4. Describe your passion and fruit for sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ.**

I see God's work in all aspects of my life. He has done so much for me, my family, our church, and my friends. I am a shy person in large groups but in small groups or one on one I am excited to be God's hands to help others, share God's love and do the work he puts in front of me. It is a blessing to see the light come into another person's eyes when they believe in the Grace of Jesus Christ.



## GEORGE SCOTT

Laity

Wellborn Methodist Church /  
Wellborn

### **1. How do you understand the purpose of the Global Methodist Church?**

To protect and promulgate Biblical values, Teach the path of Salvation to all who will listen and cherish, support and pray for our spiritual brothers and sisters

### **2. In your opinion, what is the most important thing the General Conference needs to accomplish to be considered as a success?**

It must chart a path forward that nurtures the growth of existing churches consistent with Biblical principles, fosters outreach to the world, and provide a framework that provides guidance and mutual support.

### **3. Describe some experiences that will be an advantage to your work as a General Conference delegate.**

Gaining knowledge of the catachism, meeting and interacting with other believers dedicated to the Lord and participating in the events that will help my own growth and a Believer

### **4. Describe your passion and fruit for sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ.**

For about 30 years I've taught Sunday School to classes ranging from grade school to senior citizens. I feel I can strengthen understanding of the Gospels and relate it to everyday life. I've taught confirmation classes to all appropriate ages and to disability students, working to stress the elements of our faith.



## TIMOTHY SMITH

Laity

Living Hope / Clermont

### **1. How do you understand the purpose of the Global Methodist Church?**

The purpose is to make disciples of Jesus Christ and be the light in our world. Spread the good news and the only source of Hope that we have!

### **2. In your opinion, what is the most important thing the General Conference needs to accomplish to be considered as a success?**

To be led by the Holy Spirit to fill all of those in attendance with the Great Commission. We need to return to our home churches with a feeling of awakening and purpose

### **3. Describe some experiences that will be an advantage to your work as a General Conference delegate.**

My leadership position here at Living Hope as the leadership chair, guiding our congregation through the discernment period and the disaffiliation process. And I also have served in many positions in our last 2 churches as well.

### **4. Describe your passion and fruit for sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ.**

My purpose in life is to share Christ with everyone I come in contact with. By my actions, love, and speech I want all who meet and know me to wonder where I find my peace. My fruit is leadership, teaching and organization skills. I am also a businessman, father, husband and retired teacher and coach.



DEBORAH TULP

Laity

Bethel Methodist Church /

Lake City

**1. How do you understand the purpose of the Global Methodist Church?**

To reach others with God's word and introduce them to Jesus. We want to teach the Bible the way Lord intended it to be taught using His words literally without any change.

**2. In your opinion, what is the most important thing the General Conference needs to accomplish to be considered as a success?**

They need to obey the established Rules of Discipline set forth by the Global Methodist Church. (teach God's word according to the Bible).

**3. Describe some experiences that will be an advantage to your work as a General Conference delegate.**

I feel that my background in secretarial work and the life I have tried to live for Jesus will help me as a delegate. I have traveled internationally and see the need that people have for Jesus. I ask the Lord daily to help me to honor Him with my life. I know that God is first in my life. I am looking forward to the fellowship and the potential for growth for our churches with other believers who have faith in God. I anticipate sharing with others in the growth of our church.

**4. Describe your passion and fruit for sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ.**

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