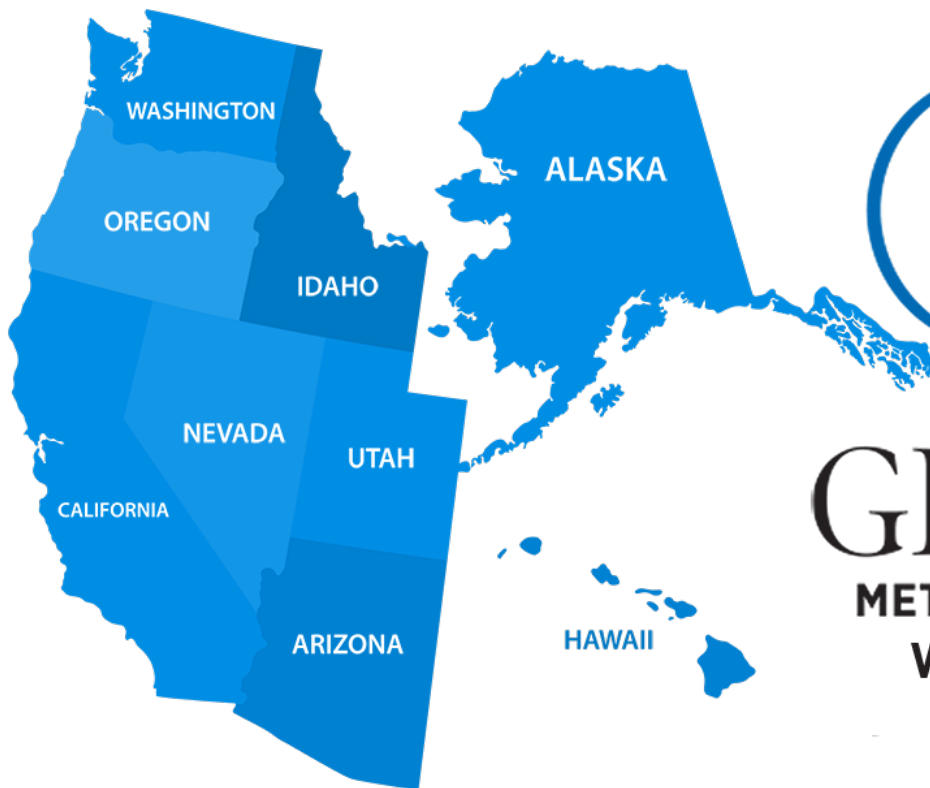




HOUSE FIRES



GLOBAL METHODIST CHURCH Western States Conference

The following statements outline the core beliefs of the Global Methodist Church. These tenets provide a foundation for all who seek to serve, lead, and disciple others within the Church.

Basic Tenets of Faith for a Global Methodist House Fire

1. **The Authority of Scripture** – The Bible is the inspired, authoritative Word of God and the primary guide for faith and practice. (2 Timothy 3:16-17)
2. **Salvation by Grace Through Faith** – We are saved by God’s grace, not by works, and we receive this grace through faith in Jesus Christ. (Ephesians 2:8-9)
3. **The Lordship of Jesus Christ** – Jesus is fully God and fully human, the Savior of the world, and the only way to the Father. (John 14:6)
4. **The Call to Personal and Social Holiness** – We are called to grow in holiness, loving God with our whole being and loving our neighbor in word and action. (Matthew 22:37-40, Hebrews 12:14)
5. **The Necessity of Repentance and New Birth** – A person must repent of sin and be spiritually reborn by the Holy Spirit to enter God’s kingdom. (John 3:3-7, Acts 2:38)
6. **The Work of the Holy Spirit** – The Holy Spirit indwells, empowers, and guides believers to live a transformed life and carry out the mission of Christ. (Galatians 5:22-25, Acts 1:8)
7. **The Importance of Discipleship** – A Christian life is marked by ongoing growth in faith, prayer, study of Scripture, and participation in the sacraments. (Matthew 28:19-20, Acts 2:42)
8. **The Church as the Body of Christ** – The Church is a community of believers called to worship, fellowship, serve, and make disciples. (1 Corinthians 12:12-27, Hebrews 10:24-25)
9. **The Call to Evangelism and Mission** – Every believer is called to share the gospel and serve others, both locally and globally. (Matthew 28:19, James 1:27)
10. **The Call to Christian Perfection** – Believers are called to grow in holiness until their love for God and others is perfected. Through the power of the Holy Spirit, they can reach a state of entire sanctification, where the heart is fully surrendered to God and willful sin is overcome. (Matthew 5:48, 1 Thessalonians 5:23, Hebrews 12:14, Romans 6:22)

Sacraments in the Global Methodist Church

The Global Methodist Church recognizes two sacraments: Baptism and Holy Communion, which are outward signs of God's inward grace, instituted by Christ.

Baptism: A Covenant of Grace

Baptism is a sacrament of initiation into the Body of Christ, signifying the forgiveness of sins, new birth, and incorporation into the Church.

- **Baptism is an act of God's grace** – It is more than a human declaration; it is a means of grace through which God is at work in the believer's life. (*Titus 3:5, Acts 2:38*)
- **Baptism marks entry into the Church** – It welcomes individuals into the community of faith and is a sign of God's covenant with His people. (*Matthew 28:19, Galatians 3:27*)
- **Both infants and adults may be baptized** – Infant baptism acknowledges God's prevenient grace at work from the beginning of life, with the expectation that the child will later confirm their faith. Adult baptism follows a personal profession of faith. (*Luke 18:16, Acts 16:15, 33*)
- **Baptism may be by sprinkling, pouring, or immersion** – The amount of water is not as important as the grace it signifies. (*Romans 6:3-4*)
- **Baptism is unrepeatable** – Since it is a sign of God's faithfulness, there is no need for rebaptism. Instead, those returning to faith may reaffirm their baptismal covenant. (*Ephesians 4:5*)

Holy Communion: A Means of Grace

Holy Communion is a sacrament in which believers encounter the real presence of Christ, receiving spiritual nourishment and grace.

- **Communion is a means of sanctifying grace** – It strengthens faith, deepens our union with Christ, and empowers us to live holy lives. (*John 6:35, 1 Corinthians 11:23-26*)
- **Christ is spiritually present** – While the elements of bread and wine remain unchanged, Christ is truly present in a way that offers grace to the believer. (*Luke 22:19-20, 1 Corinthians 10:16*)
- **All who seek Christ are welcome** – The Lord's Table is open to all who sincerely repent and seek to follow Jesus. (*Matthew 26:26-28*)
- **Self-examination is encouraged** – Participants should approach Communion with humility, repentance, and faith, recognizing it as a holy and transformative encounter with Christ. (*1 Corinthians 11:27-29*)

Attestation of Understanding and Commitment

I acknowledge that I have read and understand the foundational beliefs of the Global Methodist Church as outlined above. I affirm my commitment to uphold and teach these doctrines in accordance with the Scriptures and the historic faith of the Church. I seek to live a life of personal holiness, participate in the sacraments, and engage in the mission of making disciples of Jesus Christ.

Name: _____

Date: _____

Signature: _____

Please answer these questions. You may use the back if necessary.

Please share your understanding of the sacraments.

Please share your understanding of salvation.

Please share your understanding of the Trinity.

Please share your understanding of the Holy Spirit.

Why do you want to start a House Fire?

What excites you about starting a House Fire?

What concerns do you have about starting a House Fire?
