

Western Pacific Conference Global Methodist Church

Policy on Receiving Pastors from Another Global Methodist Conference

Purpose

To ensure that clergy transferring into the Western Pacific Conference are assessed with integrity, accountability, and in alignment with the doctrine and discipline of the Global Methodist Church, and with the ministry standards and expectations of the Western Pacific Conference.

1. Consultation Between Conference Superintendents

When a pastor seeks transfer from another Global Methodist Conference, the Conference Superintendents from both the releasing and receiving Conferences shall engage in formal consultation.

Discussion shall include, at minimum:

- Ministry history and appointment record
- Effectiveness in previous roles
- Any known concerns or limitations including any disciplinary record
- Official Clergy File including any and all evaluations (§607.1)
- Readiness for appointment within the Western Pacific Conference context

2. Required Background Screening

Regardless of screenings completed by the releasing Conference or the denomination, the Western Pacific Conference shall conduct its own independent background check, including:

- National criminal history screening
- Sex offender registry screening
- Verification of prior appointments and credentials through the Global Methodist Church
- Any additional screenings deemed necessary by the Conference Superintendent

3. Final Decision Authority

With input from the Cabinet, the Conference Superintendent shall make the final determination regarding acceptance of the pastor into the Western Pacific Conference. This determination shall be made after review of all relevant factors, including but not limited to:

- The Western Pacific Conference background check
- Denominational credentialing input
- Consultation with the releasing Conference
- The clergy member's personnel and appointment history

Decisions may include:

- Full acceptance
- Conditional acceptance (with specified requirements or follow-up)
- Denial

4. Record Keeping

A written summary of the consultation, background screening results, and final determination shall be maintained in the Conference personnel records.

5. Notification

The Conference Superintendent shall notify both the releasing Conference and the clergy member of the final decision.

6. Onboarding

Upon reception into the Western Pacific Conference:

The clergy member shall receive onboarding information regarding Conference expectations, pastoral accountability, and administrative procedures.

The Presiding Elder shall contact the clergy member within one week.

Within 60 days of reception, all clergy transferred into the Western Pacific Conference shall complete:

- Sexual harassment prevention training
- Training on identifying and reporting child abuse