

Comparison of Three Methodist Denominations

	United Methodist Church (UMC)	Global Methodist Church (GMC)	Methodist Collegiate Church (MCC)
Type	World-wide Methodist denomination	World-wide Methodist denomination	Independent Methodist network
Background	Founded 1968, largest (by far) of over 70 Methodist denominations.	Founded May 2022. Newest Methodist denomination.	Formed July 2023. Now accepting churches.
Stability	In transition as many predominately traditional churches disaffiliate 6183 US churches (20%) have disaffiliated as of June 28, 2023	Newly formed traditional/orthodox denomination 3000+ churches as of June 30, 2023, 642 of these in the 3 Texas conferences	Very early stages
Organization	Hierarchical structure that includes local churches, districts, annual conferences, jurisdictional conferences, and the General Conference	Hierarchical structure that includes local churches, districts, annual conferences, regional conferences, and the General Conference	Groups of ~10 churches within 100-mi area form a “college” anchored together by a large church. Colleges join with other colleges to form the Collegium, which acts as a decision-making entity and home for centrally managed functions
Ministries	Administers their ministries, such as UMCOR, through 13 centralized agencies. They provide resources and services to their local churches through these agencies. The agencies include United Methodist Women, Religion and Race, Discipleship and Global Ministries, to name a few.	Leaner structure with fewer boards/agencies than UMC Working on affiliation with existing agencies (e.g., UMCOR) With fewer dollars sent to Conference through apportionments, local church has more funds to support ministries of their choice	Leaner structure with 10-12 churches connected as a college to share resources Local churches drive mission outreach With fewer dollars sent to college/Collegium through apportionments, local church has more funds to support ministries of their choice
Primary Governing Document	<i>The Book of Discipline of the United Methodist Church (UMC BoD)</i> (819 pages without index, updated 2016 with 2019 addendum)	<i>The Transitional Book of Doctrines and Discipline, The Global Methodist Church (GMC TBoD)</i> (103 pages, updated January 31, 2023)	<i>Transitional Doctrines & Discipline of the MCC (MCC TBoD)</i> (early draft, intended to be “slim”) with option for supplemental Book of Discipline for the local church
What Denomination Are We?	Methodists who follow Wesleyan Orthodoxy	Methodists committed to a Wesleyan expression of Christianity	Methodists who join a cooperative, voluntary association of autonomous Wesleyan churches
Website	umc.org	globalmethodist.org	methodistcollegiate.org
Property Control and Trust Clause	Through the Trust Clause, the local church assigns property deed to UMC. The local church needs the approval of the UMC District Superintendent or UMC District Board to buy or sell property.	There is no Trust Clause. Local church owns all property and can buy and sell property without GMC approval.	There is no Trust Clause. Local church owns all property and can buy and sell property without MCC approval.

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Income Paid in Apportionments	Based on a combination of local church and annual conference expenses. Bandera UMC: 2022 = \$34,730 (7% of our budget) 2023 = \$37,014 (7% of our budget)	Based on percentage of local church's operating income. Best estimate at current time is 4% which would be \$21,222. Maximum rate would be 6.5%.	Unknown at this time. Apportionments will be waived during first two years and be paid by the White Chapel cathedral church.
Appointment of Pastors	Bishop appoints pastor with District Superintendent consultation Role of the local church Pastor-Parish Relations Committee (PPRC) is advisory Average length of appointments for BUMC has been 4 years based on last 13 pastors	Bishop appoints pastor in consultation with and agreement from local church; will normally present several possible pastors and church selects Appointment lasts as long as church/pastor agree	Appointments only made upon request of a local church Collegium to be clearinghouse for interested pastors Appointment lasts as long as church/pastor agree
LGBTQ+ Marriage and Ordination	<i>UMC BoD</i> - "marriage . . . between a man and a woman" - No practicing LGBTQ clergy - No clergy can perform same-sex marriages - all welcome as members Some Bishops and jurisdictions want to allow ordination of openly LGBTQ clergy and allowing clergy to perform same-sex marriages. LGBTQ+ marriage and ordination are not approved yet, although some are doing it	<i>GMC TBoD</i> - "Marriage between one man and one woman" - No practicing LGBTQ clergy - No clergy can perform same-sex marriages - all welcome as members if they agree to abide by doctrinal standards	<i>MCC TBoD</i> - "Marriage between one man and one woman"
Pastor Accountability	Pastor enforcement at annual conference level and Bishops at jurisdictional levels (no accountability at General Conference if jurisdiction does not enforce) LGBTQ policies not currently being enforced by all Bishops or in all US jurisdictions	Enforcement at top organization level. Sanction of pastors who do not obey the <i>GMC TBoD</i> . Failure to uphold covenant can result in removal from GMC	Member churches are in voluntary covenant to hold each other accountable Failure to uphold covenant can result in removal from MCC
Bishop Term of Office	UMC consecrate Bishops for life but can serve no more than 12 years in a conference. Must retire before their 72 nd birthday.	GMC does not consecrate Bishops for life. Serve no more than two 6-year terms for a total of 12 years, and not past age 72	No mention of "Bishops" as part of the organization in the <i>MCC TBoD</i>