

Future Methodist Denomination Comparison

Name		
The United Methodist Church		The Global Methodist Church
General Conference, Annual Conference, District Structure?		
Yes. Annual conference and district boundaries likely will be adjusted in many locations following the separation.		Yes. Annual conference and district boundaries will be new in many places. General Conference will meet every two years while the church is organizing and every six years afterward.
Boards and Agencies?		
Inherits the current 13 general boards and agencies.		New, leaner structure with a single connectional operations officer overseeing.
Trust Clause on Local Church Property		
Local church property held in trust for the annual conference.		Local church property owned by the local church.
Global in Nature?		
Likely, yes. (U.S., Western Europe, parts of Philippines and maybe Africa.		Likely yes. (U.S., Eastern Europe, part of Philippines, and Africa). Some former UMC Conferences in Latin America and Asia have indicated an interest in joining too.
Openly Non-celibate homosexual or transgender Bishops and Clergy?		
Yes		No
Clergy Performing Same-Sex Weddings		
Yes, if they so choose.		No.
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Clergy Appointments		

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<p>Ordained clergy guaranteed an appointment by the bishop, and the local church guaranteed a pastor of the bishop's choosing -- with consultation.</p>		<p>Collaborative appointment system where church lay leaders have a bigger voice in the appointment. No guaranteed appointments for clergy. Bishop must sign off on the selection made. Minority candidates must be considered.</p>
Female Clergy at All Levels of Leadership?		
Yes		Yes
Ordination		
<p>Elders and Deacons are separate orders. Commissioning is a step toward ordination in both orders. Many/most clergy are non-ordained, licensed local pastors with limited sacramental authority. Deacons do not have full sacramental authority.</p>		<p>(NOTE: This is a work in progress.) In an effort to restore the connection between ordination and the sacraments there may be a return to the pre 1992 understanding that elders are first ordained as deacons. Local pastors will first be ordained as deacons. When they have completed course of study, they may pursue Elders orders. There will be permanent Deacons, as well as Deacons on their way to becoming Elders. Deacons have sacramental authority.</p>
Bishops		
<p>Yes. Bishops serve for life (in the US). Selected by Jurisdictional/Central Conferences and are paid by General Church.</p>		<p>Yes. Term-limited. Called by the Annual Conference from a list of candidates approved at General Conference.</p>

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District Superintendents		
Yes. Appointed by the Bishop.		Presiding Elders (the historic term for DS's) may also serve a local church. They will be selected by the Bishop from a nominated slate elected at a District Conference. District size will be smaller.
Clergy Appointment Length		
One year at a time		Open ended. The Bishop's consent is required to declare a pulpit open.
Clergy Pension		
Administered by Wespeth		Administered by Wespeth
Apportionments		
Yes. The apportionments will be increased by the number of churches that disaffiliate from the UMC, to maintain the support of current structure. Currently, a church pays around 10% or more of its budget.		Yes. General church apportionments will be about one half the amount that the church is currently paying in the UMC. (It will be close to 4 - 5 1/2% of a church's budget.)
Position on Abortion		
Likely, nuanced pro-choice.		"We believe that life is a holy gift of God whose beginnings and endings are set by God, and that it is the particular duty of believers to protect themselves, including the unborn. We believe human life begins at conception and abortion ends a human life."

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Theology		
Pluralistic, flexible per 'Our Theological Task' in the UM Discipline with Articles of Confession retained as historical markers.		Classic, per the Methodist Articles of Faith and Evangelical United Brethren (EUB) Confession of Faith, but updated into a single document in today's vernacular.
Source for above information:		
http://peopleneedjesus.net/2021/05/21/two-methodisms-a-comparisons-chart/		
Disaffiliation Cost		
<p>So First UMC Crockett, having paid all of its 2021 apportionments and all of 2022 apportionment payments are paid in full. Due to the size of the Texas Conference Pension Fund, we have been informed by Conference Officials that all remaining unfunded Pension liabilities of First UMC, Crockett are covered. Also, First UMC, Crockett will have to remove all graphic references to the UMC Cross and Flame from letterheads, church bulletin and outdoor signage and marquees. We will NOT have to remove hymnals since they were purchased from Cokesbury (which any church could do).</p>		