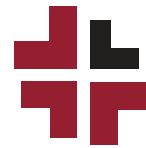


Connected to Reach People for Christ



WESLEYAN
COVENANT
ASSOCIATION





"I endorse the Wesleyan Covenant Association and call upon all United Methodists in Africa and beyond to join this new alliance of congregations, pastors, and laypeople who believe in the Scripture as the authentic Word of God for faith and Christian living, and are committed to evangelizing the nations and transforming society."

– Rev. Dr. Jerry P. Kulah, Dean, Gbarnga School of Theology, United Methodist University/General Coordinator, UMC Africa Initiative¹

CONFIDENCE FOR THE FUTURE

The Wesleyan Covenant Association (WCA) connects Spirit-filled, orthodox churches, clergy, and laity who hold to Wesleyan theology. It is an association or network of individuals and congregations who share a common understanding of our Wesleyan doctrine and desire to become a vibrant, faithful, growing 21st - century church.

We believe change is coming to The United Methodist Church, and as we live into what comes next, the Wesleyan Covenant Association will connect, encourage, and resource clergy, laity, congregations, and regional chapters by:

Committing to the primary authority of Scripture and the Lordship of Jesus Christ

Creating a unified response to encourage The United Methodist Church to maintain traditional, orthodox Methodist beliefs

Developing a plan for a positive and faithful future

The Wesleyan Covenant Association affirms the work of other renewal groups, such as The Confessing Movement, Good News, and UM Action. However, the WCA's purpose is to prepare for and live into what is next for the people called Methodists.

SCRIPTURAL AUTHORITY AND THE LORDSHIP OF JESUS CHRIST

The earliest Christian affirmation was "Jesus Christ is Lord" (Acts 2:36). This is the core belief that characterizes all Christians and defines discipleship. The Wesleyan Covenant Association aims to ground all of our beliefs and practices in the authority of Scripture. Living and serving under the Lordship of Jesus Christ and the authority of Scripture, we are moving forward with confidence for the future.



"The Wesleyan Covenant Association shares the deep history of the Wesleyan movement with the forward looking hope for what God still longs to do with the people called Methodists. I was drawn to WCA because I saw in the leadership women and men of integrity and vision who stepped up to provide leadership for the church where leadership was lacking. In these uncertain and pivotal times for The United Methodist Church the WCA is leading prayerfully, faithfully, and with intentionality. I believe that in the future we will look back at this period of our history and be grateful that we took a stand together on the historical beliefs of the church grounded in Scripture."
—The Rev. Jessica LaGrone Dean of the Chapel Asbury Theological Seminary



CREATING A UNIFIED RESPONSE

We are in a time of great uncertainty in The United Methodist Church. Persistent and escalating disobedience to the order and discipline of our church has created anarchy. The 2016 General Conference entrusted the Bishops' Commission on a Way Forward with the task of arriving at a recommended way to break the impasse over the church's ministry with lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender persons. A 2019 special General Conference will receive that recommendation and determine how our church will move forward.

The Wesleyan Covenant Association exists to give voice to Spirit-filled, orthodox members as we consider that recommendation and prepare for the decision of the 2019 General Conference. The

WCA will create a unified response, while maintaining our beliefs and advancing our witness to the historic Christian faith in the Wesleyan tradition. We are in a better position to respond to the Commission's recommendation as a unified body of Spirit-filled orthodox believers. Therefore, we seek to gather together as many like-minded clergy, laity, and congregational members of the Wesleyan Covenant Association as possible. This unified association will enable us to respond and move forward together in the strongest way possible. Acting together will give us confidence for the future.

PREPARING A PLAN FOR THE FUTURE

We believe that, after the 2019 General Conference, United Methodism will look different from how it looks today. However, we cannot wait until 2019 to figure out how orthodox, evangelical United Methodists will move forward together. That is why the Wesleyan Covenant Association is committed to working on plans for a revitalized 21st-century Methodism that can be implemented either within a United Methodist structure or outside it. Our plans need to be flexible enough to adjust to the 2019 General Conference's decisions. Our plans also need to uphold the integrity of our belief in the authority of Scripture under the Lordship of Jesus Christ, as well as seek the best framework for a vital, growing church that is making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. This planning and preparation will give us confidence for the future.

"Friends in Christ, I invite and encourage you to consider joining with me as a member of the Wesleyan Covenant Association. I do so as a call to the highest level of doctrinal integrity and missional commitment in the name of our Lord. Let us come together in a unity of gospel purpose as Christ prayed in John 17:21 and not simply a conglomeration of the lowest element of denominational engagement. Together, with all United Methodists who call on Christ, let us be united in renewing the Wesleyan movement for the advancing Kingdom of God."

– Bishop Mike Lowry, The Central Texas Conference of the United Methodist Church, The Fort Worth Episcopal Area





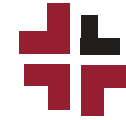
A CALL TO MEMBERSHIP IN THE WESLEYAN COVENANT ASSOCIATION

In this time of uncertainty, you can trust the Wesleyan Covenant Association to uphold the Lordship of Jesus Christ through the primary authority of Scripture and to advocate for a way forward that will not compromise the integrity of our beliefs.

Together we will reach out and provide connection and support to embattled clergy and congregations in regions that are unfriendly toward a traditional, evangelical understanding of the gospel. We are working to intentionally include and partner with our brothers and sisters in the global United Methodist connection in Africa, Europe, and the Philippines.

The Wesleyan Covenant Association has clergy and lay members from every annual conference in the United States and every central conference outside the United States. Hundreds of local churches have also become members. We are excited that churches of every size, including some of the largest membership churches in The United Methodist Church, have already become members.

Your membership, prayers, and support are essential to help us move together toward a more faithful and fruitful future. We invite you to join us today with confidence for the future!



**WESLEYAN
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ASSOCIATION

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