

2026 Great Lakes Annual Conference Legislation



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Title: Conference Superintendency Report

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Rationale (if provided)

See Superintendency Report beginning on next page.

Conference Superintendency Report

Great Lakes Annual Conference – 2026

April 1, 2026

This past year has been marked by intentional reflection, collaborative leadership, and continued strengthening of our superintendency for the sake of the mission entrusted to the Global Methodist Church.

One of the most significant developments was our participation in a comprehensive 360-degree evaluation process, facilitated by Bishop Mark Webb for all Conference Superintendents across the GMC. This process engaged multiple voices, including the Board of Ministry, Conference Staff, Cabinet, and members of the Superintendency Committee, ensuring a well-rounded and honest assessment of leadership effectiveness.

In addition to completing the evaluation, we participated in Zoom-based training and follow-up sessions with Bishop Webb, where we reviewed the responses together. These conversations provided meaningful insight, affirmed areas of strength, and helped identify opportunities for continued growth—both personally and collectively as leaders within this movement.

A significant portion of our work this year centered on salary recommendations. Through thoughtful discussion and careful discernment, the committee developed and submitted a recommendation to the Great Lakes Leadership Council for a 5% salary increase, structured as:

- 2.8% Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA)
- 2.2% Merit Increase

This approach reflects both economic realities and a commitment to recognizing faithful and effective leadership across our conference.

In addition to these responsibilities, the committee engaged in meaningful discussion regarding the development of our Presiding Elders, specifically recommending that, alongside their spiritual formation, they also receive practical leadership training. This reflects our desire to equip leaders holistically for the complexity of their roles in this growing movement.

We also strengthened the Superintendency Committee by adding new laity and clergy members, bringing the total membership to nine. This expanded representation has enriched our conversations and enhanced our ability to serve the conference with wisdom and balance.

As Chair of the Committee, I have sought to maintain regular connection beyond formal meetings through informal check-ins and phone conversations. These interactions have focused particularly on:

- Encouraging healthy boundaries between ministry and home life
- Supporting one another in the unique demands of leadership
- Cultivating awareness of the broader Global Methodist movement
- Celebrating the opportunity and responsibility of serving in this pivotal and exciting season within the Great Lakes Annual Conference

We remain deeply aware that this is a formative time—not only structurally, but spiritually. It is a privilege to serve alongside leaders who are committed to faithfulness, clarity of mission, and the ongoing work of God among us.

Respectfully submitted,

Rev. Dr. Jennifer Wilson

Chairperson, Great Lakes Annual Conference Superintendency Committee