

# 2026 Great Lakes Annual Conference Legislation



**ID:** REP-04

**Title:** Board of Ministry Report

**Submitted by:** GLAC Board of Ministry

**Type:** Report

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**Rationale (if provided)**

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- 1 See GLAC Board of Ministry Report beginning on next page.

## **2026 Board of Ministry (BOM) Report**

### **Rev. W. Shane Frederick**

Greetings in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ!

This year has been both a busy and rewarding one. We have worked to further standardize our candidacy and ordination process as we anticipate potential updates in the next *Book of Doctrines and Discipline*, expected January 1, 2027.

One of the most important questions we sought to answer in this report is:

If someone in my congregation senses a call to ministry, what is the process before they come onto the radar of the Board of Ministry?

The initial steps are as follows:

1. A candidate who has been a member of a Global Methodist congregation or ministry for at least one year speaks with their pastor or ministry leader about their call to ministry.
2. The candidate contacts their Presiding Elder in writing or by email.
3. The candidate receives approval from their PPRC or ministry board (two-thirds vote by secret ballot).
4. The candidate receives Charge Conference approval (majority vote, 50% plus one).

Once these steps are completed, the candidate may begin the formal process by submitting the appropriate forms through the conference website. This initiates a vetting process that includes a background check, credit check, psychological evaluation, and a six-month candidacy discernment period, which includes internship or ministry employment. All of this occurs prior to becoming a certified candidate.

Why do we emphasize this process? Because our conference Board of Ministry and our denomination place a high value on careful discernment. We want individuals to clearly understand God's call on their lives before moving forward.

At the same time, we recognize that as more individuals discern a call to ministry, we will need more leaders who are willing to mentor them. Our goal is to provide three levels of mentorship for every candidate:

1. Their pastor
2. A process mentor from the BOM
3. A post-certification or post-ordination mentor

We encourage those who have already answered the call to prayerfully consider stepping into this vital role.

Continuing education remains a central part of the Board of Ministry's work, and this is an area where the Cabinet and BOM will continue to collaborate. As leaders, we must be lifelong learners, but also intentional disciple-makers. The Paul-Timothy model reminds us that ministry is not meant to be done alone. Many of us did not experience one-on-one discipleship in our early years of ministry. That must change moving forward.

Speaking of transition and long-term calling, I have long sensed that my role with the Board of Ministry would not be permanent. It has been a privilege to help lead and move the BOM

forward during this season. With that in mind, by this time next year, I anticipate introducing a new Chairperson of the Board of Ministry. I ask that you pray for me, for the Board, and for God to give clear direction to Rev. Dr. Scott and me as we discern who that next leader will be.

As we close, I would be remiss not to acknowledge a significant loss for our Board this past year: Rev. Dr. Judy Janelle Debres. At the time of her passing, she served as Vice-Chair for the Michiana Region and was deeply loved by all who served alongside her. We ask that you continue to pray for her family, friends, and church.

**Board of Ministry Members:**

Megan Alamo  
Paul Anderson  
Russell Anderson  
Jessica Baker  
David Banning  
Mary Barkley  
Dawn Barnes  
Callie Best  
Bonnie Billock  
Becki Brice  
Bill Busch  
Lee Bushweiler  
Phil Carder  
Dan Colthorp  
Julia Cramer  
Mark Eastway  
Bekah Franklin  
Jan Fischer  
Rachel Frederick

Shane Frederick  
Jeremy Garrett  
Anita Genrich  
Matthew Hinshaw  
Matt Hook  
Isaac Hopper  
Rob Hughes  
Creighton Kaye  
Aaron Kesson  
Songbee Kim  
Marcel Lamb  
Laverne Larson  
Keith Lenard, Jr.  
Kathy Leydorf-Keck  
Steve Lindeman  
Lenny Luchetti  
Bob McCormick  
Lynn Messner  
Reinaldo Moraga

Kate Muhlbaier  
Georgeann Nicodemus  
Matthew Osborne  
Arun Paul  
Bob Phillips  
David Reed  
Jim Roach  
Chris Roberts  
Sheri Rohrer  
Shirley Saddler  
Shelly Snyder  
Damon Soper  
Gary Teeple  
Ryan VanMatre  
Sarah Wanck  
Bill Wilson  
Christopher Wise  
Judy Zimpfe

I am truly grateful for this team that has faithfully stepped up to serve. We believe God is not finished growing the Great Lakes Annual Conference, and He is certainly not finished calling people into ministry. The Board of Ministry remains committed to preparing and supporting those who respond to that call within the Global Methodist Church.

A servant of the Savior,

Rev. W. Shane Frederick

Chairman of the Great Lakes GMC Board of Ministry