Addressing the cultural moment 2020





Empowering people to share their faith, and impacting the world with greater courage and integrity on behalf of Jesus Christ.

Our Vision

We desire that Christ followers within the global Wesleyan family become agents of transformation by sharing the Gospel through the power of the Holy Spirit.

Our Purpose

To equip and encourage Christ followers around the world to share their faith in the context of today's realities.

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Greetings in the name of Jesus Christ!

2020 was a year like no other in recent memory.

A pandemic, global racial unrest, economic hardship.

The struggles were significant. And yet God was faithful, spurring steadfast generosity and providing new opportunities to train and equip Christ followers to show and share the love of Jesus.

As God would have it, in late 2019 we began strategizing about incorporating digital avenues into our resources. However, we had no idea a global pandemic would speed up that process in the dramatic way that it did. COVID brought much of the world to a standstill, but we were able to move forward with our plan, continuing to train, develop resources, and implement new ways to reach people despite the hurdles the pandemic presented. Through live streaming, Zoom, Facebook Live, YouTube and other digital avenues, we have been able to reach more people than we ever thought possible at the beginning of the year.

In a year of crisis management, we are deeply grateful that faithful giving has enabled us not only to meet the current, urgent need for digital teaching, but to lay the groundwork for more extensive strategies to expand our work for greater impact. Despite the challenges and difficulties, we are thankful for the opportunities for creative ministry God has provided during this extraordinary year and are excited about the ways in which God will continue to use WME to empower Christ followers to share the good news of Jesus Christ.

Shalom,

Rev. Dr. Kimberly Reisman - WME Executive Director

Connecting the **faith** within **us** to the world around us

As the world was required to stay at home, World Methodist Evangelism worked diligently to find alternate ways to reach people. Thanks to the support of donors, several vital needs were met which allowed our work to continue.



With the launch of our *Real Faith* ~ *Real World* podcast World Methodist Evangelism offers conversations and teachings to listeners to encourage believers to connect the faith within them to the world around them. During 2020 we posted 21 episodes and logged listeners in 35 countries and 105 different cities. We are grateful to Christ Church Global in Memphis, TN for making our podcast possible through a generous contribution.

Since traveling and in-person gatherings were not an option, it was imperative that alternate means of sharing resources be established. You, our donors and partners, came to the rescue providing funding that allowed updates to software, hardware, and web translation options. You provided funding that allowed for the creation of videos and recordings of teaching resources. And your funding provided for the expansion of our virtual platforms, such as Zoom and social media, to better share our material.

This year allowed us to push our dream of video to the forefront. We created short, sectional videos to accompany the Embrace study book, we created videos to accompany a large group study workshop or church-wide study, and we created 20 Plain Truth videos to accompany the Faith Sharing New Testament with the Psalms.

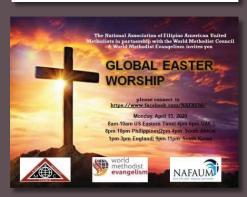














Trusting where we are today **matters** for what we will be doing in the **future**.

World Methodist Evangelism continues to thrive because we are a connection point. Our hope is that we will be "the pebble that causes the ripple." We desire that our training and teaching time will be an instrument, so that participants become agents of transformation as they share about the Gospel and the saving love of Jesus.

Even though we have not been able to travel, our mission and ministry has not stopped. We trusted that even in times of difficulty, the need for teaching, mentoring and encouraging must continue.

Here are a few highlights from this year:

- Embrace study event for a refugee community in Roselle, IN
- A Global Perspective on Covid-19 hosted by three WME Regional Secretaries and an Order of the FLAME leader
- Executive Director Kim Reisman preached at the Mission Weekend for First Broad Street UMC in Kingsport, TN
- Churchwide Embrace study with Chapelwood UMC in Lake Jackson, TX
- Webinar in July entitled Equipping the Total Church for Global Mission
- Executive Director Kim Reisman gave the keynote address to over 1300 people for the Aldersgate Renewal Movement national conference
- Embrace webinar trainings every weekend in August which impacted over 1000 attendees in Brazil
- Spiritual Formation webinar for people in Indonesia
- On Easter Monday, WME partnered with the World Methodist Council and the National Association of Filipino American United Methodists for a unique Wesleyan Methodist Global Easter Worship experience. Our Executive Director, Rev. Dr. Reisman shared the sermon, We Have A God Who Makes The Impossible, Possible.
- Webinar in December with our partners in Russia
- We began a Thursday Prayer & Fasting prayer time on Facebook Live

Testimonial

mentored by you and someday bringing the FLAME

I would like to nominate candidates for the Order of the FLAME gathering next year. I'm still here in the United States due to the corona virus outbreak. My fight back to the Philippines has been cancelled. I will be forever grateful for the favor that has been given to me by WME to be part of the Order of the FLAME last month. I've been to many conferences before, but I find this one not only mentally shaping but also heart-warming and compelling. It touches the three H's, namely head, heart and hands. God bless your leadership and the group under your care. Looking forward to being

Blessings,
Lestie
2020 attendee

gathering to the Philippines.



Embracing what will move us **forward**



Moving forward happens through a combination of actions from many different approaches.

Growing our programs, expanding our team, and having your support are key elements!

Our world is ever-changing, and as we try to make sense of it and try to determine what the future will bring, we are constantly reminded that it is our young people who will carry the message of Christ forward.

WME offers a gathering every two to three years called Metanoia. This gathering is a unique opportunity for young people across the global Wesleyan Methodist family to join together in worship, study, training, and encouragement to live more fully as committed disciples of Jesus Christ, to share their faith with boundless love and boldness, and to impact their world with greater courage and integrity on behalf of Jesus Christ. The word "metanoia" means spiritual transformation and is translated the same in all languages!

In 2018 WME hosted Metanoia in Costa Rica. Due to the visa rejection of five young people from India who wanted to attend, Metanoia India began.

The five young people thought their hopes and aspirations had come to an end when they were refused visas. Their rejection, however, was God's redirection. Although they were unable to attend the event, they were determined to follow their calling and the focus of Metanoia, so they organized a Youth Camp where they would begin a journey to live out the Great Commission as defined in Matthew 28.

They took the concept of the WME event, and together with other young people they gathered from their community, they sat, prayed, and planned for the building up of God's Kingdom. Since 2018 these young people have continued to gather and grow in their numbers. So far, the program has touched over 500 young adults.

WME was fortunate to be able to add two team members this year.

Paulo Lopes

Paulo Lopes joins the team as our Coordinator of Emerging
Leadership and will be organizing our Metanoia gatherings
as we move forward. Paulo is originally from Brazil and
believed his calling was to become a diplomat. He
and God just disagreed on what kind of diplomat
he would become. Outside of WME, Paulo has
been on staff in the local church and
denominational levels, most recently as
Director of Next Generation Ministries for the
UMC's Virginia Annual Conference.
Additionally, he serves as a leadership
coach through Spiritual Leadership, Inc.

Cheryl Hagen

Cheryl Hagen joins World Methodist
Evangelism as our Financial Manager.
Cheryl has a passion for travel and
encouraging others to do so and has so far
visited all 50 states and 21 countries. She also
enjoys spending time with family and friends,
music, good food, volunteering and reading.



Capitalizing on the strengths of the Order of the FLAME which is designed to equip, nurture, and encourage young clergy and their spouses, we launched our FLAME 2.0 mentoring program.

FLAME 2.0 gathers cohorts of 12 clergy for a year-long learning experience which includes engagement in cross denominational experiences of mentoring, learning, missional collaboration, and spiritual exploration. The goal of FLAME 2.0 is to deepen young clergy's spiritual stamina and insight necessary for continued productive and meaningful ministry. The emphasis on the holistic nature of evangelism and its interconnected relationship with other ministries of the church creates a well-rounded perspective on ministry, as well as a valuable means to address the burnout, loneliness, and frustration experienced by many clergy.

"FLAME 2.0 is equipping me for the next stages of ministry.

Having time with people who are feeling the same pressures and stressers has been helpful."

"FLAME 2.0 has been a huge recalibration. The interaction (even on Zoom) with fellow clergy and knowing that people are praying for you is powerful."

"

"Everyone needs a spiritual mentor!"

Board Members

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Bishop William Muriuki Mwango Methodist Church in Kenya

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Bishop Sunday Onuoha Methodist Church Nigeria

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Rev. Ralph Afghan The Methodist Church of Southern Africa

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Rev. Kimba Kyakutala Evariste United Methodist Church Democratic Republic of Congo

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Bishop Uduak (U.U.) Effiong African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church, Nigeria

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Rev. Denny Robert Nainggolan Methodist Church in Indonesia, Riau Islands District

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Rev. Atu Lagi Wesleyan Methodist Church of New Zealand

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Rev. Christhard Elle United Methodist Church, Germany

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South America:

Bishop Paulo Lockmann Methodist Church in Brazil

Rev. Ewander Ferreira de Macedo Methodist Church in Brazil

North America Team

USA/Canada

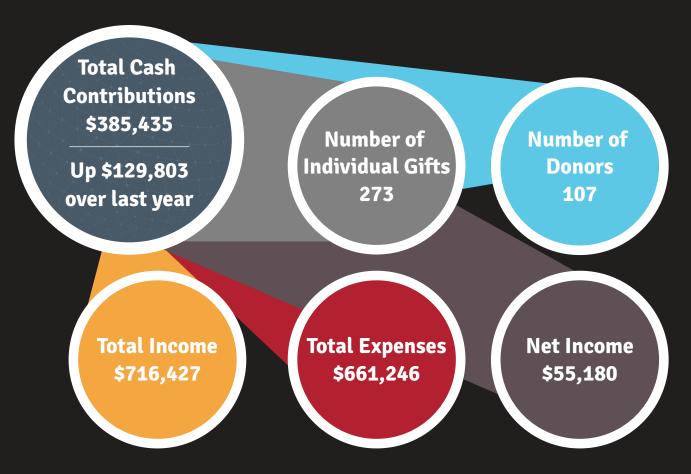
Bishop Darryl Starnes African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church

Caribbean

Rev. Dr. George Mulrain
The Methodist Church in the Caribbean and the Americas

Financials

Thanks to generous individuals and church partners, we were able to finish the year well. Despite the pandemic and the economic stress it has caused, our cash contributions in 2020 were greater than in 2019 and our active donor base has grown as well. We are so grateful!



For the first time, we did not have to draw from our reserves!



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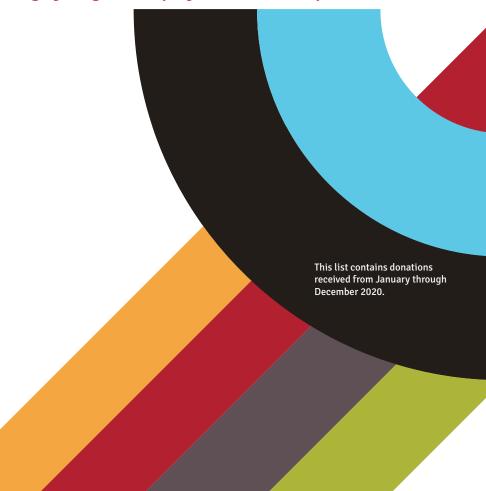
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Trinity UMW - Rose City, MI
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