

Ministerial Education & Guidance Board

2026 Report – Part I

OREGON CONFERENCE OF THE FREE METHODIST CHURCH

Mr. Chairman,

The Board of Ministerial Education and Guidance recommends:

1. That the following persons be **received by transfer**: Scott Rossiter(E), Nikki Rossiter (E)
2. That the following person be received as **conference ministerial candidate**:
JoLeah Odom
3. That the following persons be continued as **conference ministerial candidates**:

<u>Name</u>	<u>year</u>
Stephany Coblentz	2nd
Mark Stanearth	3rd
4. That the following persons be **discontinued as conference ministerial candidate**: Christa Crabtree, Anja Shoun
5. That the following persons be **received as members of the conference and ordained elder**:
Samuel Dilla
6. That the following person be given the status of a **licensed pastor**: Carlos Gallo
7. That the following person be given a **certificate of standing**: Trisha Welstad(E)
8. That the following person be **reinstated as Elder**:
9. That the following person be **returned to itinerant ministry**:
10. That the following persons **be located**:
- 11.
12. That the following persons **continue to be located**: Karen Henry (E), Newberg, Northside Community Church; Rick Russell (E), Redmond, Mountain View Fellowship.
13. That the following persons' **credentials were voluntarily deposited in the conference office**: Mark Johnson (E)
14. That the following persons have **withdrawn from the conference and the denomination** while under charges or complaints:

15. That the following person be **withdrawn from the conference and the denomination at own request**: Mark Johnson (E)
16. That the following persons' credentials be **declared null and void**: Donna James Scharn (E)
17. Upon recommendation by the various pastors and local boards of administration of the churches where they are located, the Ministerial Education and Guidance Board affirms the integrity and Christian discipleship of located deacons and elders.
18. The Ministerial Education and Guidance Board has given due consideration to the character and performance of each ministerial member of the Oregon Conference. Based on the information available to the MEG Board through the ministers' annual Intent Statement, personal interactions with the individuals, input from the superintendent and, to the best of their knowledge and except for any contrary actions referenced in this report, affirms the integrity and Christian discipleship of all Oregon Conference ministers in accord with paragraphs 5300-5310 of the 2023 Book of Discipline.

2025-2026 Ministerial Education and Guidance Board Members:

Russ Brechbiel, Judy Carson, Emily Nelson, Nick Forrest, Missy Getsinger, Larissa Hawk, Diane McNay, Supt. Robroy Ranger (BVO), Gretchen Stehr, Jonathon Swearingen (Chair), Marla Sweeney

Ministerial Education & Guidance Board

2026 Report – Part II

OREGON CONFERENCE OF THE FREE METHODIST CHURCH

Objectives and Goals

- Become more connected with the ministers in our areas.
- Allow for more intimate knowledge and support of those churches and pastors.
- Encourage pastors to develop personal ongoing support and develop a personal growth and education plan (i.e. Formation Plan).
- Better serve as an education and guidance board:
 - Meet annually with all CMC's and appointed Ordained Ministers.
 - Build trusting relationships with the pastors.
 - Build a deeper understanding of the needs of our pastors.
 - Potentially catch signs of burnout, woundedness or other distress and provide support to the pastor through times of crisis.
- Provide guidance as CMC's move toward ordination.
- Conduct Outcomes Based Assessments for all CMC candidates and current CMCs/Elders.
- Provide emotional and psychological assessment before appointing lead pastors.
- Keep current all special appointments.
- Support ongoing training of conference elders and leaders.
- Train & dialogue with pastors regarding ordination and consecrated deacon process.
- Support superintendent in training pastors to work with their boards.
- Hold one annual joint MEG Board retreat.
- Strive for continued development and implementation of administrative systems.

Areas of Responsibility

The MEG Board oversees:

Northwest Area:

Hillsboro, Ahava Ministries
Portland, Grace Christian Fellowship
Portland, Iglesia Vida de Fe
Sherwood, Journey Church

Newberg Area:

Newberg, Northside Community Church

East Portland Area:

Gladstone, The Source Church

Gresham, Sanctuary Church

Portland, Chinese FMC

Portland, South Sudanese Bible Church-CP

Portland, Iglesia Adonai

Central Oregon Area:

Bend, Mirror Pond Church

Bend, Water Church

Madras, Iglesia Metodista Libre de Madras-CP

Madras, Juniper Community Church

Redmond, Mountain View Fellowship

Central Valley Area:

Falls City, Mountain Gospel Fellowship

Salem First FMC

Willamina FMC

Southern Area:

Central Point, The Fold-CP

Eugene, Living Hope Church

Lebanon, Ignite Hope

Springfield, Genesis Community Church

Sutherlin, Calapooia FMC

Sweet Home, Hillside Fellowship

In 2025-2026 we:

- Oversaw the connection among Elders through quarterly Cohort meetings.
- Confirmed that all current Conference Ministerial Candidates (CMC) have mentors who provide ongoing input and guidance regarding ordination and current ministry.
- Interviewed two candidates for Elder ordination and recommended them to the Annual Conference.
- Interviewed one candidate for CMC and recommended her to the Annual Conference.
- Observed with excitement the level of participation of Elders in quarterly meetings.
- Met for an annual prayer, planning, and training retreat.
- Oversaw evaluations of lead pastors through the Ministry Leadership Center.
- MEG Chair attended prayer and conference summit with the Board of Bishops.