

# WESLEYAN/METHODIST DENOMINATIONAL COMPARISON

Denomination	Doctrine	Trust Clause	Bishops	Clergy Appt.	Apportionments	Size	History
United Methodist	Wesleyan, lack of accountability	Yes, local church holds property for conference	Elected for life	Yearly appointed by bishop, some congregational input	12-15 percent of budget (varies by conference and size of church)	13 million members globally, 6.2 million in U.S., 30,000 churches (2020)	Founded 1968, merger of predecessor denominations founded in 1784, 1800, and 1803
Global Methodist	Wesleyan, adds Nicene and Apostles Creed, More robust accountability	No	Elected for a term (TBD at Convening GC) Likely 12-year limit	Hybrid-appointment system: Bishop works with congregation to choose pastor	2 percent of operating income initially, with a 6.5 percent cap	Projected 2,400 to 4,000 churches, 240,000 to 400,000 members in U.S. (2024)	Founded in 2022
Free Methodist	Wesleyan	Yes, local church holds property for conference; property transferring in is exempt	Elected to 4-year terms, re-electable	Appointed by Ministerial Appointments Committee chaired by bishop	10-13 percent of previous year's income	77,000 members in U.S., 1050 churches (2015) Mostly northern	Founded in 1860, issues were abolishing slavery and eliminating pew rent
Wesleyan	Wesleyan	Yes, local church holds property for conference	One General Superintendent, 4-year terms, re-electable	Congregational call system	11 percent of income	125,000 members, 1,500 churches in U.S. (2019)	Founded in 1843, issue was abolishing slavery
Nazarene	Wesleyan	Yes, local church holds property for conference	Six General Superintendents, 4-year terms, re-electable	Congregational call system	15 percent of income, includes pastor's retirement	637,000 members, 5,280 churches in U.S. (2016)	Founded in 1908, issue was focus on holiness
Congregational Methodist	Wesleyan	No	One president, minimal authority	Congregational call system	Decided by local church	15,000 members, 150 churches in U.S.	Founded in 1852, issue was congregational government