# **NE GMC News**



Nebraska Global Methodist Movement Newsletter, December, 2024

**GLOBAL** 



# Merry Christmas Everyone!

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Shanon L. Williams, Pastor
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Greetings in the name of Jesus,

Y'all, it has been a joy and delight to be with all of you during our Charge Conference experiences. To spend time in worship together, to hear of the work you are doing in each church/congregation was inspiring and uplifting. All of you are doing incredible and important work for the kingdom of God.

Thank you for sharing those celebrations and moments of service. We also spent a bit of time at each church/parish visioning what the future will look like. You all have great ministries in place, but we also talked about what you could "plant". What additional things you could do to impact each other, your church, congregation, parish, and your community. I asked you to consider what kind of legacy you want to leave? I hope you are still thinking about that. Years from now, who is going to look back and say, "I'm here because the faithfulness and witness of (person/

congregation/church) made a difference in my life."

How can we love others well, in the name of Jesus? How can we invite others to know the one who came to save them? How can we live out God's word and our Wesleyan heritage and witness?

Those are important questions to consider as we all move forward together in faith!! And this is the perfect time of year to do that. We are on the verge of a blessed season within the church.

Advent is an opportunity for a lot of heartfelt reflection on the coming of Christ. Both his first coming and the promise of his second coming. Christmas is a time to remember that a Savior has been born for us. His name is Jesus or Immanuel. The name Jesus is defined as "God saves" or "the Lord is salvation", the root in Hebrew means to "deliver" or "rescue". This definition defines Jesus' identity as Savior of the world. Jesus' name communicates that the Lord saves his people from evil by his sovereign grace. Praise God for sending us Jesus – The Savior who rescues and delivers by grace through faith.

Shanon Williams, cont.

Immanuel means "God with us" and that is just what Jesus did, he came to dwell with us (for a time), to teach, preach, heal, redeem, warn, guide, pray over, and die for each of us. His death and resurrection are also a part of the story. From birth to death to resurrection to ascension there is one overarching story – God had a plan to save us. I'm so glad I'm a part of the redemption story and that you are too! This knowledge unites us in faith.

Until we meet again face to face, I will continue to hold all of you in prayer. I ask God to pour grace and blessings out upon all of you as you journey through Advent and Christmas. I ask God to encourage and strengthen you for all that lies ahead as you continue to share the good news of Jesus Christ.

Grace and peace,
Shanon L. Williams, Pastor
Serving Wallace and Maywood Methodist
Churches
Presiding Elder, Nebraska District Two



Photo taken by Shanon Williams Snowy morning, Georgetown, CO







Jeff and Brianna Bowdino, recent donors to John Wesley Global Methodist Men's Scholarship Endowment Fund. Pictured with Jerry Farber.





Glen Flint Receiving Certificate of Appreciation for recent Donation to John Wesley Global Methodist Men's Scholarship Fund from Randy Fleming

## Men's Encounter

January 9-11, 2025
The Crossing Camp and
Retreat Center,
Lexington, NE
Cost \$150

To learn more go to: nebraskaencounter.com

## Launch points:

Kearney, NE

Lexington, Ne

Holdrege, NE

Valentine, NE

North Platte, NE

Leadville, CO

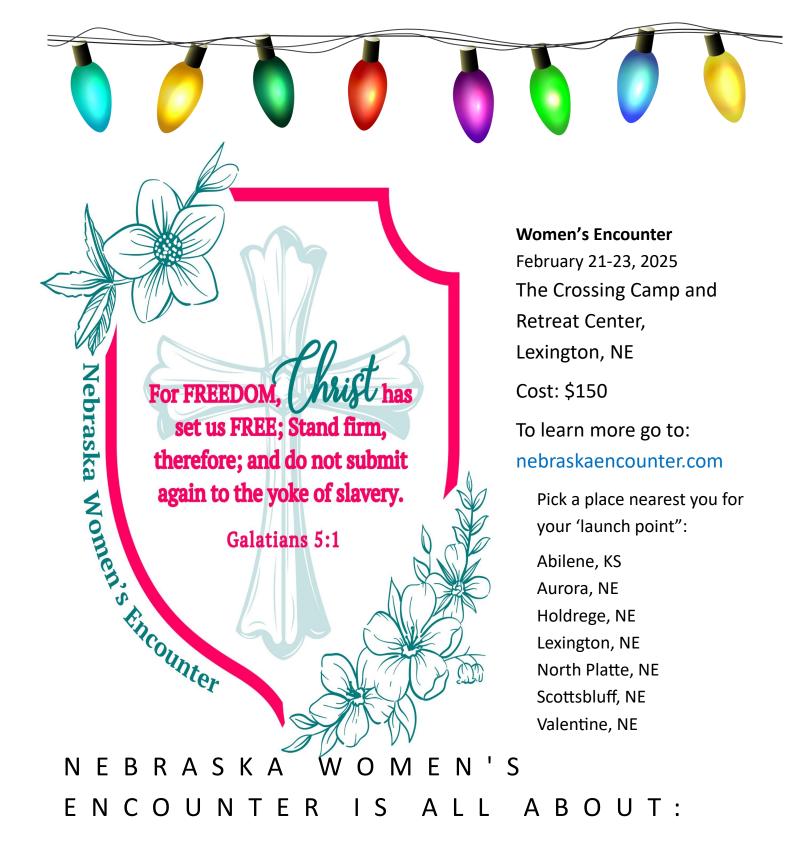
Grand Island, NE



Men's Encounter is all about being set free to live the life God intended for you. God has so much more in store for us through the saving work of Jesus Christ, and the power of Holy Spirit in our lives! We want men to experience the freedom to walk with God in ways they have never experienced before! A ministry organization fueled by Christians to spread the Gospel message.

Encounter is a non-denominational group of men who believe in the power of God, through the saving work of Jesus Christ, and the ongoing work of the Holy Spirit to transform and change lives. (See our statement of faith for more information)

Encounter is a gathering of men from all walks of life. You will hear multiple sessions that address different aspects of every man's life. Each session will have a teaching, and most will be accompanied by personal testimony. These testimonies and teachings are brought to you by common men, like you and me. They will share personal experiences of how God took them from bondage to freedom. These will be real life stories that can apply to your life as well. If you have ever wondered if there really is a God, wondered why God created you, or if God could even love you now, then you need come see for yourself how He does love each one of us. You will enjoy lots of good food and make many new friends.



Women's Encounter can be described as a weekend where women encounter Christ in ways that are perhaps new or long-since felt. Through teaching, testimonies, and worship we'll dive deep into what it means to be a faithful follower of Jesus Christ. You'll learn more about yourself, the body of believers around you, and most importantly, the God who created you. Get to know the sisters you have in the Lord and the community that awaits you. Whether your relationship is new or old, this weekend will be a blessing.



**The Walk to Emmaus** is a spiritual renewal program intended to strengthen the local church through the development of Christian Disciples and leaders. The program's approach seriously considers the model of Christ's servanthood and encourages Christ's disciples to act in ways appropriate to being "a servant of all."



If you would like to attend this Walk to Emmaus event, you need a sponsor: A sponsor is someone who has attended Emmaus before. If you do not know someone who has attended Emmaus to sponsor you, please call 402-370-5612 and leave your name, phone number, and the city in which you live. Or you can email website @nebraskawalktoemmaus.org and leave the same information. Someone will contact you.



#### Men's Walk to Emmaus

February 27-March 2, 2025

Camp Comeca and Retreat Center
Cozad, Nebraska



## Women's Walk to Emmaus

March 6-9, 2025

Camp Comeca and Retreat Center Cozad, Nebraska

# Continuing to Support Hurricane Recovery Efforts

Hurricanes have left a trail of devastation across several of our Global Methodist Church communities, severely impacting families and congregations in its path. The need for support is still an issue.. As we lift up the victims and their communities in prayer, we give you information on how you can donate:

#### **Global Methodist Church Disaster Relief Fund:**

- Donate **ONLINE**: <u>Global Methodist Church Disaster Relief Fund</u> (select "Disaster Relief" when prompted).
- Donate by CHECK:

Make payable to "Global Methodist Church" and send to:

#### Global Methodist Church

11905 Bowman Drive, Suite 501-A

#### Fredericksburg, VA 22408

Please include "Helene Disaster Relief" in the memo line.

For donations exceeding \$5,000, please email <u>finance@globalmethodist.org</u> to confirm your contribution.

Your support, whether in prayer or financial giving, is a beacon of hope to those facing unimaginable loss in the wake of Hurricane Helene. Together, as a Global Methodist Church family, we can make a tangible difference in rebuilding and restoring what has been broken. Thank you for standing with our brothers and sisters in their time of need, and for being the hands and feet of Christ in this time of great challenge.

