



REV. HEATHER SIMS

CANDIDATE FOR THE EPISCOPACY

2026 General Conference • Global Methodist Church
Joyful Confidence In the Gospel • Proven Connectional Leadership



GET TO KNOW **REV. HEATHER SIMS**

EPISCOPAL CANDIDATE

Rev. Heather Sims is a joy-filled servant of Christ with more than two decades of pastoral leadership across diverse ministry settings. She currently serves as Senior Pastor of Christ Church Methodist in The Woodlands, Texas, where she has led the congregation into a season of spiritual renewal and measurable growth, including increases in baptisms, confirmations, new members, servant leaders, student engagement, and generosity.

Heather has served in significant pastoral roles, including Lead Pastor at Cornerstone Methodist (Houston), Pastor at Fairbanks UMC, Directing Pastor of Family Discipleship at Chapelwood UMC, and Co-Pastor at Spring Woods UMC, where she led a multi-national congregation and guided major transitions, staff restructuring, debt retirement, and community-focused ministry expansion.

Her connectional leadership includes service as a General Conference Delegate (2024 & 2026), recent member of the Global Episcopacy Committee (stepped down due to episcopal nomination), Chair of the Trinity Conference Staff & SPR Committee, member of the Global Staffing Task Force, and preacher for the Trinity Conference Convening Annual Conference (several annual conferences, including Trinity, West Plains, Allegheny West). She has also served on boards of Trustees, Ordained Ministry, and Higher Education across multiple conferences.

Heather holds a Master of Divinity from Asbury Theological Seminary and is completing her Doctor of Ministry at Truett Seminary (Baylor). Her formation includes Advancing Pastoral Leadership, the Transforming Center's Spiritual Transformation program, and the Exponential Learning Community.

A passionate preacher, mentor, retreat leader, and mission partner, Heather embodies joyful discipleship, collaborative leadership, and a deep commitment to the flourishing of the Global Methodist Church.



A LIFE-LONG METHODIST, CALLED INTO MINISTRY AT AGE 9

Having been raised in a military family, and living abroad for years as both a youth and as an adult, Heather brings resilience, adaptability, and a global perspective to her ministry.

Heather grew up in the Methodist Church. At age 4, she recalls a profound moment of feeling loved by God so strongly, she was convinced that she was His absolute favorite! At age 9 she discerned her called into ministry— a call that grew stronger over time. During her college years, her life of discipleship and her calling to ministry were nurtured by the leaders at The Wesley Foundation, Methodist Campus Ministry.

She is married to her best friend of 31 years, Rev. Jonathan Sims, who serves as a bi-vocational clergy member of the Global Methodist Church. Together they have three adult sons: Noah (24), Daniel (22), and Michael (19).

Heather’s life is marked by a deep love for adventure, spiritual renewal, the outdoors, the transformative disciplines of solitude and silence, and the daily pursuit of Jesus.



LIFE VERSE

*“But now, this is what the LORD says—
he who created you, Jacob,
he who formed you, Israel:*

*“Do not fear, for I have redeemed you;
I have summoned you by name;
you are mine.*

*When you pass through the waters,
I will be with you;*

*and when you pass through the rivers,
they will not sweep over you.*

*When you walk through the fire,
you will not be burned;
the flames will not set you ablaze.*

*For I am the LORD your God,
the Holy One of Israel, your Savior.”*

- ISAIAH 43:1-3

PASTORAL LEADERSHIP, MEASURABLE FRUIT

CURRENT APPOINTMENT

SENIOR PASTOR — Christ Church Methodist, The Woodlands, TX

May 2024 - Present

The Holy Spirit is guiding renewal and growth across the life of Christ Church congregation.

2025 Highlights

- 384 average weekly attendance (30%+ increase)
- 15 baptisms; 5 confirmations; 30 new members (27% increase)
- 3 students discerning full time vocational ministry
- 188 active servant leaders (13% increase)
- 150+ children at VBS; 65% increase in Wednesday Night Connect
- 15% increase in tithes and offerings over 2024

PREVIOUS MINISTRY APPOINTMENTS

- **Lead Pastor, Cornerstone Methodist Church, Houston**
Led vision integration and disaffiliation; achieved 20%+ growth in attendance and giving
- **Pastor, Fairbanks United Methodist Church, Houston**
Guided congregation through relocation, property sale, and merger
- **Directing Pastor of Family Discipleship, Chapelwood UMC, Houston**
Oversaw children, youth, college, special needs, and day school ministries; led 90+ staff
- **Co-Pastor, Spring Woods UMC, Houston**
Served a multi-national congregation; led revitalization, debt retirement, and community engagement



CONNECTIONAL & DENOMINATIONAL LEADERSHIP

LEADERSHIP BEYOND THE LOCAL CHURCH

Heather's ministry has always been shaped by a deep love for the connectional life of the Church and a commitment to shared leadership.

Global Methodist Church

- Featured Guest Preacher, Heartland Annual Conference (June 2026)
- Featured Guest Preacher, Allegheny West Annual Conference (June 2025)
- Elected General Conference Delegate (2024, 2026)
- Member, Global Episcopacy Committee (2024-2025)
- Member, Global Staffing Task Force (appointed by Rev. Mike Schafer)

Trinity Conference Leadership

- Member, Connectional Council
- Chair, Personnel Committee
- Preacher, Convening Annual Conference
- Summer Camp Preacher (sold-out attendance)

Additional Service

- Board of Trustees, Texas Annual Conference
- Board of Ordained Ministry, Texas Annual Conference
- Board of Higher Education & Campus Ministry, Northwest Texas Conference

RETREAT & FORMATION MINISTRY

Retreat Speaker:

- Montgomery UMC
- Chapelwood UMC
- St. Paul UMC
- Faith UMC
- Spring Woods UMC
- FCC Abilene
- Friendswood Methodist Church

Walk to Emmaus: Assistant Spiritual Director; Spiritual Director

MISSIONS EXPERIENCE

- Weslaco
- Belize
- Mexico City
- Chicago
- Los Angeles
- Appalachia
- Local missions



THEOLOGICAL DEPTH & FORMATION

EDUCATION

- Doctor of Ministry (in process), Truett Theological Seminary, Baylor University
- Master of Divinity, Asbury Theological Seminary
- Bachelor of Science, Human Development & Family Studies, Texas Tech University

LEADERSHIP & SPIRITUAL FORMATION

- Advancing Pastoral Leadership — five-year executive-level program
- Certificate in Spiritual Transformation — The Transforming Center (Ruth Haley Barton)
- Exponential Learning Community — invitation-only formation for emerging pastors

This ongoing formation continues to shape Heather's preaching, leadership, and pastoral care while grounding her work in Scripture, prayer, and Wesleyan theology.



A **VISION** FOR EPISCOPAL LEADERSHIP

EPISCOPAL NOMINATIONS:

- **In-Conference Nominee** — Trinity Annual Conference
- **Outside of Conference Nominee** — Northeast Annual Conference

If elected, Heather would seek to serve as a bishop who leads with integrity, humility, and deep trust in the work of the Holy Spirit.

Heather's episcopal leadership would be shaped by these commitments:

CULTIVATING
a healthy,
prayer-centered
connectional culture

SUPPORTING clergy
through formation,
encouragement, and
accountability

STRENGTHENING
churches in mission,
renewal, and
discipleship

LEADING with
clarity in complexity
and hope in seasons
of transition

ADVANCING the
global witness and
unity of the Global
Methodist Church

Above all, Heather desires to follow the voice of the Good Shepherd and to serve the Church with faithfulness and joy.



AT A GLANCE



REV. HEATHER SIMS

CANDIDATE FOR THE EPISCOPACY • GLOBAL METHODIST CHURCH

CURRENT APPOINTMENT

Senior Pastor, Christ Church Methodist
The Woodlands, Texas

CONFERENCE AFFILIATION

Trinity Conference

CONTACT

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Entrusting this discernment to the Lord who calls each of us by name.

