

# How do I become a missionary or volunteer?

Discover how the work of mission enables people, places and communities to meet challenges with creativity, strength and hope. The General Board of Global Ministries is the global mission agency of <u>The United Methodist Church</u>. We have a variety of opportunities to help you to find the best place to serve or volunteer. Service opportunities exist within the United States and in many countries around the world. Our <u>mission theology statement</u> guides Global Ministries' participation in the Missio Dei, recognizing that the transforming power belongs to God.

More than 300 missionaries serve in over 60 countries, while 100 volunteers reach out to 23 countries. They work as:

- Pastors
- Teachers
- Church planters
- Social workers
- Community developers
- Agriculturalists
- Public health workers
- Professors and so much more!

### **General application process:**



<sup>\*</sup>Mission Volunteers are not commissioned

### **Placements:**

Global Ministries works closely with partnering organizations and churches around the world to determine how a missionary can best serve the community. Our placement partners initiate an invitation for a missionary or volunteer to work in their community and play a key role in their community.

### **Categories of missionary service:**









### **Global Missionaries**

Global Missionaries are commissioned individuals and couples who are called to serve outside their country of origin as a tangible connection between the church and the community. They are "from everywhere to everywhere," bringing their unique gifts and graces to share in a new culture as they live in solidarity and connect the church in mission.



Missionaries serve in vastly different locales in more than 60 countries around the world. Here are a few examples of how Global Missionaries are using their professional skills to engage the church in mission.









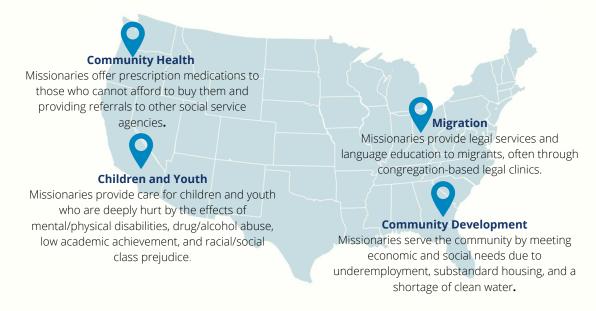


## **Church and Community Workers**

Church and Community Workers (CCWs) are missionaries of Global Ministries responding to God's call to uplift the disenfranchised and poor in rural and urban areas in the United States. They facilitate communication and collaboration to equip churches to recognize and respond to needs in their community.



The work of CCWs is ever-changing to meet the needs of their community. However, they embody core values that help them equip churches and communities to work together to address holistic human needs. The placement is a partnership between Global Ministries, the annual conference, the project and the missionary.











### **Mission Volunteers**

Mission Volunteers is a program designed for mission-minded individuals and couples who desire to engage in God's mission. This is an opportunity to build new relationships while promoting justice and peace in the world. Mission Volunteers (MVs) can offer their skills and talents for service in their country and around the world on long-term assignments at their own expense.



The Mission Volunteers program offers individuals and couples the opportunity to volunteer for a period of two months to two years. Through a long-term placement, these volunteers can use their personal gifts to engage and live in community with those whom they serve.









### **Global Mission Fellows**

The United Methodist Church has been sending young adults to serve short term in mission since 1951. The Global Mission Fellows program offers the opportunity for service in the United States (the US-2 Track\*) and around the world (the International Track). Fellows seek to connect the church in mission while addressing the root causes of oppression and alleviating human suffering in their host communities.



Fellows serve outside of their home context while living out the core values of the program: to engage with local communities, connect the church in mission and grow in personal and social holiness. By learning intentionally from their new community and sharing their gifts and graces, Fellows help to create sustainable change and promote human dignity for all. Here are a few ways Fellows are continuing to make an impact.

### Philadelphia - US-2 Track\*

Fellows work alongside a nonprofit organization to provide support to U.S. immigrants and refugees with information about immigration laws and citizenship.

#### Brazil - International Track

Fellows work with children in a low-income community to provide a safe place for them to learn sports, languages, arts skills and much more.



#### **Russia - International Track**

Fellows provide tutoring to the youth in English language and other projects by providing opportunities for group problemsolving and lifelong development.



### Zimbabwe - International Track

Fellows partner with the community to coordinate and monitor health programs, including maternal and child health, malaria prevention and HIV and AIDS education.



### **Philippines - International Track**

Fellows coordinate programs for women, youth and children, as well as contribute to essential community development efforts.









<sup>\*</sup>Those serving in the US-2 Track must be eligible to work in the United States without sponsorship.