

# **Timeline of United Methodist History 1703-1996**



**General Commission on Archives and History  
P.O. Box 127  
Madison, NJ 07940**

# Timeline of United Methodist History

## Acronyms

CME	Colored (later Christian) Methodist Episcopal Church
EA	Evangelical Association
EC	Evangelical Church
EUB	Evangelical United Brethren
MC	The Methodist Church
MEC	Methodist Episcopal Church
MECS	Methodist Episcopal Church, South
MP	Methodist Protestant Church
UB	United Brethren in Christ
UMC	The United Methodist Church
WFMS	Woman's Foreign Missionary Society

1703	John Wesley is born (June 17).		
1707	Charles Wesley is born (December 18).		
1725	Martin Boehm is born (November 30).		
	John Wesley is ordained as a deacon in the Church of England.		
1726	Philip William Otterbein is born (June 3).		
1729	Charles Wesley forms the "Holy Club" at Oxford University.		
1735	John and Charles Wesley embark for Georgia (October 14).		
1736	John and Charles Wesley land at Cockspur Island on February 6. John Wesley holds his first service on March 7 in Savannah.		
	Wesley forms fellowship societies in Georgia.		
	Charles Wesley departs for England in July.		
1737	Wesley publishes <i>A Collection of Psalms and Hymns</i> in Charleston, South Carolina.		
1738	George Whitefield sails for Georgia.		
	Wesley returns to England from Georgia.		
	Wesley and Peter Böhler form the Fetter Lane religious society.		
	Charles Wesley's transforming experience (21 May).		
	John Wesley's Aldersgate experience (24 May).		
	Wesley visits Moravians in Germany.		
1739	Wesley begins field preaching in Bristol.		
	Wesley holds the first service in the Foundery, London.		
1741	Wesley accepts Thomas Maxfield as his first "son in the		
	gospel" (full-time itinerant lay preacher).		
1742	Wesley organizes the Methodist society in Bristol into classes and issues quarterly tickets to members.		
	Wesley holds his first watch-night service, at Kingswood on the outskirts of Bristol.		
1743	Wesley publishes <i>The Nature, Design, and General Rules of the United Societies</i> .		
1744	Wesley calls the first Methodist Conference, at the Foundery, London.		
1745	Francis Asbury is born (August 20 or 21).		
1747	Thomas Coke is born (September 28).		
1752	Philip William Otterbein comes to America as minister of a German Reformed congregation in Lancaster, Pennsylvania.		
1758	John Wesley baptizes a black man for the first time.		
1759	Jacob Albright is born (May 1).		
1760	Philip and Margaret Embury and Paul and Barbara Heck arrive in New York from County Limerick, Ireland.		
	About this year, Robert and Elizabeth Strawbridge emigrate from Ireland and settle on Sam's Creek, Frederick County, Maryland.		
c1763	Robert Strawbridge organizes a Methodist class.		
1764	The Strawbridge Log Meetinghouse is built near New Windsor, Maryland, possibly the first Methodist chapel in America.		
1766	Barbara Heck is instrumental in organizing a Methodist congregation in New York City, which includes Bettye, a black woman. It is the beginning of what is now the John Street United Methodist Church.		
	In Leesburg, Virginia, land is deeded to a Methodist		



- layman for "no other use but for a church or meeting house and grave yard." This is the earliest known American Methodist church property.
- 1767 Captain Thomas Webb consolidates Methodism in New York and Philadelphia.
- About this year, Philip William Otterbein hears Martin Boehm preach at Isaac Long's barn in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania. Otterbein greets Boehm with "Wir sind brüder" (We are brothers), and they soon begin working together.
- 1768 Wesley Chapel (John Street Church), New York, is dedicated.
- 1769 Richard Boardman and Joseph Pilmore arrive in America, the first two preachers appointed by Wesley for the colonies.
- The Methodist Society in Philadelphia purchases St. George's Church from a Dutch Reformed congregation. Here, Joseph Pilmore makes the first public statement in America of Methodist principles. He also holds the first Methodist prayer meeting in America in St. George's sanctuary.
- c1770 Mary Evans Thorne is appointed class leader by Joseph Pilmore in Philadelphia, probably the first woman in America to be so appointed.
- 1770 George Whitefield dies at Newburyport, Massachusetts on his seventh visit to America.
- Joseph Pilmore introduces the watch-night service to America, at St. George's Church in Philadelphia.
- 1771 Francis Asbury and Richard Wright sail for America.
- Upon arrival, Asbury preaches his first American sermon at St. George's Church, Philadelphia, October 27.
- 1773 George Shadford and Thomas Rankin sail for America.
- The first conference of American Methodist preachers is convened by Thomas Rankin at St. George's Church, Philadelphia.
- William Watters becomes the first native-born American Methodist itinerant preacher.
- 1774 Lovely Lane Chapel is built in Baltimore.
- Philip William Otterbein becomes pastor of the German Evangelical Reformed Church in Baltimore (today Old Otterbein United Methodist Church).
- 1776 American Revolution; all of Wesley's missionaries except for Francis Asbury and James Dempster return to England. Dempster becomes a Presbyterian.
- 1780 Wesley publishes *A Collection of Hymns for the Use of the People called Methodists*.
- Phillip Barratt, member of the Methodist Society near Frederica, Delaware, donates a plot of land so the Society can build a meeting house. It is named Barratt's Chapel, and is the oldest house of worship still extant in the United States built by and for Methodists.
- 1784 Wesley ordains Richard Whatcoat and Thomas Vasey as preachers for America and commissions Thomas Coke to ordain others.
- Coke and Asbury meet for the first time at Barratt's Chapel.
- Methodist Episcopal Church is organized at the "Christmas Conference," Baltimore, Maryland. Francis Asbury is ordained by Coke, Otterbein, and probably Whatcoat and Vasey. Asbury and Coke are named superintendents of the new church.
- Wesley provides the new MEC with *The Sunday Service of the Methodists in North America*, with other occasional services, his revision of *The Book of Common Prayer* of the Church of England.
- At the Christmas Conference, Freeborn Garrettson and James O. Cromwell are named missionaries to Nova Scotia, making them the first foreign missionaries of the Methodist Episcopal Church.
- Richard Allen and Absalom Jones are licensed to preach by St. George's Church, Philadelphia. They are the first African Americans granted MEC preaching licenses.
- 1785 The first meeting of an MEC annual conference is held at the home of Major Green Hill in Louisburg, North Carolina.
- 1786 John Dickins prepares the first *Discipline* of the Methodist Episcopal Church.
- Coke and Asbury issue *A Pocket Hymn Book* for the new MEC.
- About this year, Francis Asbury begins a Sunday school in Virginia.
- A two-year old Methodist society in Union, (West) Virginia builds Rehoboth Church, the oldest extant Protestant church building west of the Alleghenies.
- Timothy Acuff builds a Methodist chapel on his land near Blountville, Tennessee. It is the first to be built west of the Appalachian mountains.
- 1787 Cokesbury College opens at Abingdon, Maryland. It is destroyed by fire in 1795.
- The Free African Society is formed in Philadelphia, the beginnings of the African Methodist Episcopal Church.
- 1788 Charles Wesley dies (March 29).
- Stephen Keywood (or Cawood) hosts the first Methodist conference held west of the Blue Ridge Mountains, in Glade Spring, Virginia.
- Francis Asbury ordains John Smith a deacon in Rehoboth Church, the first Methodist ordination west of the Alleghenies.
- 1789 Philip William Otterbein organizes the first annual conference of his followers.
- The Methodist Book Concern is begun in Philadelphia under John Dickins.
- 1790 The first successful American Sunday school is established in Philadelphia and the MEC officially recognizes the Sunday school as an institution of the church.



- American Methodists take over British work in Canada.
- Henry Evans, a Virginia freeman and licensed Methodist preacher, organizes a church in Fayetteville, North Carolina.
- 1791 John Wesley dies (March 2).
- Boehm's Chapel is built in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, for Methodist use on land deeded to the Methodists by Martin Boehm, who will become a founder of the United Brethren in Christ.
- 1792 First quadrennial General Conference of American Methodism is held in Baltimore.
- The office of Presiding Elder is established (after 1908 called District Superintendent).
- James O'Kelly leads the first major schism in American Methodism, forming the Republican Methodist Church, later the Christian Church.
- 1794 Beginnings of the camp meeting movement at Rehoboth, North Carolina.
- 1796 A group of African Americans withdraws from the John Street Church, forming the nucleus of what will become the African Methodist Episcopal Church, Zion in 1820.
- Jacob Albright begins preaching with a Methodist Episcopal exhorter's license
- African Zoar Church (now Zoar United Methodist Church) is dedicated in Philadelphia, the oldest black congregation in the United Methodist tradition with a continuous existence.
- Formation of the six original annual conferences in America (New England, Philadelphia, Baltimore, Virginia, South Carolina, and Western). Before 1796, there was one conference with six districts.
- 1800 Jacob Albright forms three classes among the Germans in Pennsylvania.
- Philip William Otterbein and Martin Boehm found the United Brethren in Christ.
- The MEC General Conference officially grants ordination to African Americans. Bishop Asbury ordains Richard Allen a deacon.
- 1803 The first conference of Albright's followers is held.
- 1808 Jacob Albright dies (May 18).
- 1809 First *Discipline* and catechism of Albright's followers are printed.
- 1810 First EA (and first German language) camp meeting is held on the farm of Michael Maize in New Berlin, Pennsylvania.
- 1812 Martin Boehm dies (March 23):
- The MEC holds its first General Conference with elected delegates.
- Lycoming College is founded as Williamsport Academy by the MEC in Pennsylvania.
- 1813 Philip William Otterbein ordains Christian Newcomer, who is then elected bishop and becomes the premier organizer of the United Brethren Church.
- Philip William Otterbein dies (November 17).
- 1814 Thomas Coke dies (May 2) and is buried in the Indian Ocean.
- John Dreisbach is elected the first presiding elder in the Evangelical Association.
- 1815 First General Conference of United Brethren in Christ held and first *Discipline* approved, under the leadership of Bishop Christian Newcomer.
- First German language camp meeting of the UB is held at Rocky Springs, Franklin County, Pennsylvania.
- 1816 The African Methodist Episcopal Church is formed and Richard Allen is chosen bishop.
- The first General Conference of the Evangelical Association convenes.
- Francis Asbury dies (March 31).
- John Stewart, an African American, begins a mission among the Wyandotts of Ohio. MEC response to his work results in the formation of a denominational missionary society in 1819.
- 1817 The first church and first publishing house of the EA are built at New Berlin, Pennsylvania.
- The Evangelical Association publishes its first hymnal, *Das Geistliche Saitenspiel*.
- 1818 *American Methodist Magazine* begins publication
- 1819 The Missionary and Bible Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church is founded. The New York Female Missionary Society is organized as an auxiliary to it. A Missionary Society is also founded in Philadelphia.
- McKendree Chapel is erected near Jackson, Missouri, probably the oldest Protestant church building still standing west of the Mississippi.
- 1820 Nathan Bangs becomes editor and general book steward of the Methodist Book Concern
- First United Brethren Sunday School held at Croydon, Indiana.
- The African Methodist Episcopal Church, Zion, is organized in New York.
- The Wesleyan Repository*, later *The Mutual Rights and Methodist Protestant*, begins publication.
- Bishop McKendree calls for a new effort to "spread the Gospel among the Indians" in his episcopal address at the MEC General Conference.
- Methodists in Tuscaloosa, Alabama create a missionary society to work with the Chickasaws and Choctaws.
- 1822 William Capers (MEC), "missionary in South Carolina and to the Indians," opens the Asbury Manual Labor School and Mission near Fort Mitchell, Alabama for Creek children.
- Daniel Coker organizes a Methodist society for freed



- slaves en route to Liberia.
- 1823 *Zion's Herald* begins publication, the first Methodist weekly newspaper.
- 1824 The American Sunday School Union is organized.
- Peter Cartwright (MEC) moves from Kentucky to Illinois, where he will become one of the most famous of the frontier preachers.
- Choctaw Mission is established by the Mississippi Conference.
- Feeling the abolition of slavery impossible, the MEC turns its attention to regulating the treatment of slaves by its members.
- 1826 The *Christian Advocate* (Methodist Episcopal newspaper) begins publication. Nathan Bangs is the editor.
- The MEC Council of Bishops holds its first meeting, in Philadelphia.
- 1827 The Methodist Sunday School Union is founded with Nathan Bangs as its corresponding secretary.
- 1828 Nicholas Snethen, Asa Shinn, and others organize the Associated Methodist Churches, forerunner of the Methodist Protestant Church.
- Preachers and laymen meet at Whitaker's Chapel, near Enfield, North Carolina, to organize the first annual conference of what will soon become the Methodist Protestant Church.
- McKendree College (MEC) is founded in Lebanon, Illinois, the oldest college in Illinois.
- 1829 Primitive Methodists in England begin a mission to the United States.
- The Oneida Mission (MEC) is established in New York by Daniel Barnes.
- 1830 The Methodist Protestant Church is organized.
- Randolph-Macon College (MEC) is founded in Virginia.
- 1831 Four Flathead and Nez Percé Indians from the Oregon country walk to St. Louis searching for someone who will explain "the white Men's God" to their people. This prompts the formation of an MEC Oregon Mission.
- 1832 The first EA Sunday school is organized, in Lebanon, Pennsylvania.
- 1833 Melville Cox (MEC) begins the first American Methodist overseas mission, to Liberia.
- Allegheny College (Meadville, Pennsylvania), chartered in 1817 under Presbyterian auspices, becomes related to the MEC this year.
- Ownership of Dickinson College, Carlisle, Pennsylvania, founded in 1773, transfers from Presbyterian control to the Baltimore Conference (MEC).
- John Clark (MEC) establishes a mission for the Chippewa near Detroit.
- 1834 Sophronia Farrington, the first unmarried Methodist woman missionary, arrives in Liberia.
- The United Brethren Publishing House is formed.
- Religious Telescope* (UB) begins publication.
- The MEC begins a mission in the Oregon Territory, headed by Jason Lee.
- The first MP General Conference is held in Georgetown, District of Columbia.
- David Ayers (MEC) distributes Bibles in Spanish in South Texas.
- 1835 Wilhelm Nast is appointed MEC missionary to German immigrants in Ohio. He becomes the founder of the German Methodist movement.
- The Charitable Society of the EA is formed to assist destitute clergy.
- Albion Female Collegiate Institute and Wesleyan Seminary (now Albion College) is founded by Michigan Methodists.
- 1836 *Der Christliche Botschafter*, the first EA denominational newspaper, begins publication.
- Justin Spaulding sails to Brazil as an MEC missionary, the first appointed for permanent service in South America. The mission will close in 1841.
- Sarah Lankford establishes the Tuesday Meetings for the Promotion of Holiness in her home in New York City. Her sister, Phoebe Palmer, soon assumes leadership of the Meetings and rapidly becomes the most famous proponent of the holiness movement in the United States.
- Martin Ruter opens MEC work in the Republic of Texas.
- Emory College (now University) is chartered. The next year, 330 acres are set aside for the college town and named Oxford, Georgia.
- Wesleyan College is founded in Macon, Georgia, the first college to grant regular collegiate degrees to women. The school opens in 1837 and graduates its first class in 1840.
- Emory and Henry College, Emory, Virginia, is established by the Holston Conference (MEC) as a manual labor school.
- 1837 Ann Wilkins (MEC) goes to Liberia with the support of the New York Female Missionary Society. She retires in 1856 as the senior missionary on the field.
- DePauw University (MEC) is chartered in Greencastle, Indiana as Indiana Asbury University.
- 1838 McMahan Chapel (MEC) is constructed in San Augustine, the oldest Protestant church with a continuous history in Texas.
- Greensboro College is chartered as Greensboro Female College (MEC) in North Carolina.



- 1839 John Seybert is elected the first EA bishop.  
*Guide to Christian Perfection* begins publication.  
 The EA organizes a denominational missionary society.  
 The first local EA woman's missionary society is organized at Immanuel Evangelical Church in Philadelphia.  
 Union Institute (MEC) is founded in Randolph County, North Carolina. It is the forerunner of Duke University, Durham.  
 The MEC sends out its largest group of missionaries to date. They sail for Oregon.  
 Newbury Biblical Institute (Vermont) is founded, the first American Methodist seminary, forerunner of Boston University School of Theology (MEC).  
 The Mississippi Conference (MEC) founds Centenary College at Clinton, in honor of the 100th anniversary of Methodism. The school moves to Shreveport in 1908.
- 1840 An American conference of the Primitive Methodist Church is organized.  
 Rutgersville College is established by Methodists, the first Protestant college in Texas. (Its present-day successor is Southwestern University in Georgetown.) It is named for the missionary Martin Ruter and located in Rutgersville, a town established just five weeks after Ruter's death in 1838. The Texas Annual Conference is also organized in 1840 in Rutgersville.
- 1841 *The Ladies' Repository*, the first Methodist periodical for women, begins publication.  
 By this year, the MEC has established missions among some 35 Native American tribes in 16 states and territories.  
 Members of one of Jacob Albright's classes emigrate to Ohio, where they found the town of Flat Rock as an EA community.
- 1842 Ohio Wesleyan University (MEC) is founded in Delaware, Ohio.  
 Willamette University is founded by Jason Lee and other Methodist missionaries in Salem, Oregon. It is the oldest university in the American West.  
 Iowa Wesleyan College, Mount Pleasant, is chartered as a Literary Institute (MEC).
- 1843 Orange Scott and others, favoring the abolition of slavery, withdraw from the MEC to form the Wesleyan Methodist Connection.  
 The EA General Conference of this year determines to work more energetically among English speakers, while not abandoning its German ministry.  
 Lambuth University is established as the Memphis Conference Female Institute (MEC) in Jackson, Tennessee.
- 1844 The Methodist Episcopal Church is divided, north and south, by the Plan of Separation. The issue of slavery also divides the Presbyterian and Baptist denominations.
- The Indian Mission Conference is formed and placed under the jurisdiction of southern Methodism.
- 1845 The Methodist Episcopal Church, South, is formally organized in Louisville, Kentucky.  
 Olaf Gustaf Hedstrom opens a mission to Scandinavian immigrants and sailors in the ship "John Wesley" (also known as "Bethel Ship") in New York harbor.  
 Baldwin Institute (MEC) is founded in Berea, Ohio. The German department becomes a separate school, German Wallace College, in 1864. The two merge to form Baldwin-Wallace College in 1913.
- 1846 The first quadrennial General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South is held in Petersburg, Virginia.  
 MacMurray College, Jacksonville, Illinois, is chartered as the Illinois Conference Female Academy (MEC).  
 Mount Union College (MEC) is established in Alliance, Ohio, one of the first coeducational colleges in the country.  
 Baltimore Colored Mission Conference (MP) is organized.
- 1847 The MEC begins mission work in China with Judson Dwight Collins and Moses and Jane Atwater White.  
 A United Brethren quarterly conference gives Charity Opheral a preacher's license.  
 The MEC South American mission reopens, with Dallas E. Lore appointed to Buenos Aires.  
 Otterbein College, the first UB college, opens in Westerville, Ohio. It is the first coeducational American school to enroll women on the college level on equal standing with men, and the second to admit African Americans.
- 1848 The MECS begins mission work in China, appointing Charles Taylor and Benjamin Jenkins.
- 1849 The MEC begins mission work in Germany, headed by Ludwig S. Jacoby.
- 1850 The New York Ladies' Home Missionary Society, under the leadership of Phoebe Palmer, begins a mission in Five Points, the worst section of New York City.  
 Albright Memorial Chapel is erected in Kleinfeltersville, Pennsylvania on the 50th anniversary of the Evangelical Association.  
 Illinois Wesleyan University is founded by the Illinois Conference of the MEC.  
 Ole Peter Petersen (MEC) is appointed as a local preacher to Norwegians in Upper Iowa.
- 1851 Lydia Sexton is voted "recommendation" as a "pulpit speaker" by the United Brethren General Conference.  
 The first EA foreign missionary, John C. Link, arrives in Stuttgart, Germany.  
 Methodist missionaries in California found California Wesleyan College (now University of the Pacific) in Stockton, California.



- 1852 A Convention of Colored Local Preachers and Laymen convenes at Zoar Church in Philadelphia, the first gathering of its kind in the United Methodist tradition. The group meets annually until 1863, and in 1864 organizes the Delaware Annual Conference (MEC).
- 1853 Antoinette Brown Blackwell is ordained by the Congregational Church. Luther Lee, Wesleyan Methodist leader, preaches the ordination sermon.
- An MEC mission to Norway is opened by Ole Peter Petersen.
- Benigno Cárdenas preaches the first Methodist sermon in Spanish in Santa Fe, New Mexico.
- A party of UB settlers moves to the Willamette Valley of Oregon.
- Cornell College (MEC) is founded in Mount Vernon, Iowa as Iowa Conference Seminary.
- The MECS founds Columbia Female College in Columbia, South Carolina (today Columbia College).
- 1854 The MEC Missionary Society supports a missionary, John Peter Larsson, to Sweden.
- Hamline University (MEC) is founded in St. Paul, the first college in Minnesota.
- Moore's Hill Male and Female Collegiate Institute (now the University of Evansville) is founded in a Methodist church in Moore's Hill, Indiana.
- Yadkin College (now High Point College) is founded by the MP in North Carolina.
- Wofford College (MECS) opens in Spartanburg, South Carolina.
- 1855 Garrett Biblical Institute (MEC) opens in Evanston, Illinois. It is named for its benefactor, Eliza Garrett. It is the forerunner of Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary.
- The first missionaries of the UB are sent to Sierra Leone: W. J. Shuey, D. C. Kumler, and D. K. Flickinger.
- 1856 William and Clementina Rowe Butler arrive as the first missionaries of the MEC in India.
- The MEC begins mission work in Switzerland, appointing Ernst Mann and H. zur Jacobsmühlen.
- The EA opens its first school, Union Seminary, in New Berlin, Pennsylvania. (Albright College in Reading, Pennsylvania is Union Seminary's successor.)
- The MEC General Conference gives presiding elders authority to employ African American pastors.
- LaGrange Female Academy (now LaGrange College), founded in 1831, is purchased by the MECS North Georgia Conference.
- 1857 The MEC appoints Wesley Prettyman and Albert L. Long to establish a Bulgaria mission.
- Tennessee Wesleyan College is founded in Athens as Athens Female College (MECS).
- 1858 The Methodist Protestant Church divides over the issue of slavery.
- Benjamin Titus Roberts is expelled from the Genesee Conference of the MEC for his outspoken criticism of the church.
- Christian Willerup (MEC) arrives in Denmark to begin a mission.
- Francis Burns, African American missionary to Liberia, is elected bishop by the Liberia Conference, making him the first black bishop and the first missionary bishop of the MEC.
- Mrs. M.L. Kelley organizes a missionary society on the Lebanon Circuit, Bethlehem, Tennessee to support Mrs. J.W. Lambuth's school in China. This is the first known organized effort by MECS women in support of missions.
- Baker University (MEC) is founded in Baldwin City, Kansas, just four years after the opening of the Kansas Territory.
- 1859 The EA organizes a denominational Sunday School and Tract Society.
- Adrian College in Michigan is chartered. The descendant of a Wesleyan Methodist school founded in 1845, it is transferred to the MP Church in 1868.
- 1860 The Free Methodist church breaks away from the MEC and organizes in Pekin, New York under the leadership of B. T. Roberts.
- Young J. Allen and his wife arrive in China to establish an MECS mission.
- Simpson College is established as Indianola (Iowa) Male and Female Seminary (MEC).
- 1861 The Civil War begins.
- The EA founds Plainfield College in Plainfield, Illinois (now North Central College in Naperville).
- 1862 Amanda Hanby Billheimer, daughter of UB Bishop William Hanby, sails for Sierra Leone with her husband. She is the first woman foreign missionary of the UB Church.
- 1864 Methodist deaconess work begins in Germany.
- The Delaware Annual Conference is organized, the first of what are eventually 25 "Negro Annual Conferences" in the MEC.
- The University of Denver is founded as Colorado Seminary (MEC) by the Territory of Colorado.
- The MEC forms a Church Extension Society (later Board of Church Extension), to assist congregations in the erection of churches.
- The Northwestern, Southwestern, and Central German Conferences (MEC) are organized.
- Frank B. Smith becomes the first African American to be admitted to an MEC annual conference (New England).
- 1866 The MEC forms the Freedmen's Aid Society to



establish schools for former slaves in the South. Rust College is founded in Mississippi the same year.

Helenor M. Davison is ordained a deacon by the Indiana Conference of the Methodist Protestant Church, probably making her the first ordained woman in the Methodist tradition.

The MECS adopts lay representation in General and Annual Conferences.

Lebanon Valley College (UB) is founded in Annville, Pennsylvania.

Centenary College for Women (MEC) is founded in Hackettstown, New Jersey to commemorate the centennial of American Methodism.

Drew Theological Seminary (MEC) is founded in Madison, New Jersey.

Kentucky Wesleyan College (MECS) opens for classes at Millersburg (now located in Owensboro).

The MECS General Conference approves the formation of a separate denomination for black Methodists in the South.

Eastern German Conference (MEC) organized

Dr. and Mrs. Otis Gibson (MEC) are appointed to work among Chinese laborers in Sacramento

1867 The National Camp Meeting Association for the Promotion of Holiness is founded.

A mission is established in Brazil by the MECS.

Classes are begun at Central Methodist College, Fayette, Missouri (MECS).

1869 Maggie Newton Van Cott, preacher and evangelist, is granted a local preacher's license by the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Lydia Sexton (United Brethren) is appointed chaplain of the Kansas State Prison at the age of 70, the first woman in the United States to hold such a position.

The Woman's Foreign Missionary Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church is formed in Boston at the instigation of missionary wives Clementina Butler and Lois Parker. Isabella Thoburn and Clara Swain leave for India as the Society's first missionaries.

MEC preaching, by a converted seaman, Gustaf Lervik, is first heard in Finland.

The United Brethren open a mission in Germany. Christian Bischoff is the first missionary.

Clafin College is founded in South Carolina by the Freedmen's Aid Society (MEC) for freed slaves.

The Freedmen's Aid Society founds Clark University (later College) in Georgia. In 1988, Clark merges with Atlanta University to form Clark Atlanta University.

Dillard University is founded as New Orleans University by the Freedmen's Aid Society (MEC).

Thomas Harwood reopens New Mexico mission for MEC. Emily Duncan Harwood opens the first

Protestant school in New Mexico Territory.

1870 The Colored Methodist Episcopal Church is organized out of the MECS. (The name is changed in 1956 to Christian Methodist Episcopal Church.)

Syracuse University is founded by the MEC in Syracuse, New York.

1871 Union Biblical Seminary (UB) opens in Dayton, Ohio. It is later called Bonebrake Theological Seminary, and today is known as United Theological Seminary.

Alejo Hernández becomes the first Mexican ordained by a Methodist body (the MECS).

The MECS begins mission work in Mexico, appointing Sosthenes Juarez, a Mexican.

The MEC appoints Leroy M. Vernon to found a mission in Italy.

The North Carolina Colored Mission Conference (MP) is organized.

1872 Laymen are received into the General Conference of the MEC.

Mary Q. Porter, WFMS (MEC) missionary, opens women's work in North China.

The Alabama Conference (MECS) purchases Tuskegee Female College and renames it Alabama Conference Female College (today Huntingdon College, Montgomery).

The Chicago German Conference (MEC) is organized.

Cookman Institute is founded by the Freedmen's Aid Society in Jacksonville, Florida.

1873 The MEC begins a mission to Mexico, headed by William and Clementina Rowe Butler.

The MEC sends Robert and Henrietta Sperry Maclay to open a mission to Japan.

Bennett College is founded by the MEC Freedmen's Aid Society in Greensboro, NC. Originally coeducational, it becomes a woman's college in 1926.

The Wilmington Annual Conference (MEC) establishes Wilmington Conference Academy (now Wesley College in Dover, Delaware).

The Freedmen's Aid Society founds Wiley College in Marshall, Texas, the oldest accredited Black college west of the Mississippi.

1874 Dora E. Schoonmaker is sent to Japan as the WFMS of the MEC begins mission work in that country.

The Chautauqua Movement begins with a Sunday school teacher's assembly at Chautauqua, New York.

The Woman's Christian Temperance Union is formed by a group of women at Chautauqua following a lecture by Jennie Fowler Willing (MEC), who presides over its first meeting. Annie Wittenmyer (MEC) is the first president (1874-79). Frances Willard (MEC) becomes its corresponding secretary. Two years later Willard openly espouses woman's suffrage.



- The WFMS of the MEC opens the Clara Swain Hospital, the first hospital for women in Asia (Bareilly, India).
- The German Mission Conference (MECS) is organized.
- The West Texas Conference (MEC) is organized. It includes a Mexican Border District.
- 1875 UB women organize the Woman's Missionary Association.
- The Cape May Commission declares that the Methodist Episcopal Church and Methodist Episcopal Church, South, are coeval branches of the Methodist Episcopal Church founded in 1784.
- A local preacher in Brazil, J.E. Newman, is recognized as the first missionary of the MECS in that country.
- Clark University, Atlanta, Georgia opens a theological department. In 1883, it becomes Gammon Theological Seminary.
- 1876 Anna Oliver is the first woman to receive the Bachelor of Divinity degree from an American theological seminary (Boston University School of Theology); two years later, Anna Howard Shaw earns the same degree.
- Union Biblical Institute opens, the first EA seminary.
- The first EA missionaries to Japan begin their work: Frederick Kreckler, Rachael Hudson, and A. Halmhuber.
- Meharry Medical College is founded by the Freedmen's Aid Society as the medical department of Central Tennessee College in Nashville.
- The MEC General Conference votes to allow annual conferences to divide along racial lines.
- 1877 Emily Beekin is sent to Sierra Leone as the first missionary of the United Brethren's Woman's Missionary Association.
- The Methodist Protestant Church, divided in 1858 over the issue of slavery, formally reunites.
- Bishop William Taylor (MEC) introduces Methodism into Chile and Peru
- Kanichi Miyama is converted in San Francisco. He goes on to found the first Japanese Methodist Church in America.
- The UB General Conference votes to allow lay persons to be members of annual conferences.
- Philander Smith College is founded in 1877 by the MEC Freedmen's Aid Society as Walden Seminary.
- The MEC organizes the Northwest Swedish Conference.
- The first Methodist church building for Hispanic Americans is built in Key West, Florida.
- 1878 Women in the MECS organize a WFMS and are given General Conference recognition. Lochie Rankin goes to China as their first missionary.
- Catherine and William Booth form the Salvation Army in London.
- The Colorado Texas Colored Mission Conference (MP) is organized.
- 1879 Frances Willard becomes the second president of the W.C.T.U. She serves until her death in 1898.
- The women of the Methodist Protestant Church organize their Woman's Foreign Missionary Society in Pittsburgh.
- Bishop James M. Thoburn (MEC) begins Methodist Episcopal work in Burma
- The West and St. Louis German Conferences (MEC) are organized.
- The Alabama Mississippi Conference (MP) is organized.
- 1880 The Woman's Home Missionary Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church is organized and Lucy Webb Hayes is elected president.
- Anna Oliver and Anna Howard Shaw are denied ordination by the MEC General Conference. Shaw is then ordained by the Methodist Protestant Church.
- The WFMS of the MP sends out its first missionary, Lizzie Guthrie. She dies on her way to Japan and is replaced by Harriet G. Brittan, who founds the MP mission in Yokohama.
- The Salvation Army is established in the United States.
- The MEC Northwest Norwegian Conference is organized.
- Antonio Díaz (MEC) begins work in Los Angeles.
- 1881 The Christian Endeavor movement is begun by Francis E. Clark.
- First Methodist Ecumenical Conference, London
- The first American Methodist hospital is chartered, in Brooklyn, New York. It opens in 1887.
- Santiago Tafolla (MEC) is appointed the first Mexican American presiding elder (San Antonio District, Texas).
- 1882 Westminster Theological Seminary (MP) opens in Westminster, Maryland. In 1958 it moves to Washington, DC and is renamed Wesley Theological Seminary.
- Paine College is founded in Augusta, Georgia by the MECS and the CME.
- A Board of Church Extension is formed in the MECS, to assist congregations in the construction of churches.
- 1883 Women of the Evangelical Association organize the Woman's Missionary Society.
- Dakota Wesleyan College (MEC) is chartered in Mitchell, South Dakota.
- 1884 The Methodist Protestant General Conference rules Anna Howard Shaw's ordination out of order.
- Laura Askew Haygood sails to China as an MECS



missionary, where she will serve until her death in 1900.

Central Collegiate Institute, Altus, Arkansas, comes under Methodist control. Later it moves to Conway and is renamed Hendrix College in honor of an MECS bishop.

The Norwegian & Danish Conference (MEC) is organized.

The Spring Creek Colored Mission Conference (MP) is organized in Tennessee.

1885 Bishop William Taylor (MEC) begins missions in Angola and the Congo.

James M. Thoburn and William Oldham begin missions in Singapore and Malaysia.

Lucy Rider Meyer (MEC) opens the Training School for City and Home Missions (later the Chicago Training School).

The first MEC missionaries arrive in Korea: William and Louise Arms Scranton, Henry and Ella Dodge Appenzeller, and Mary F. Scranton (the last a WFMS missionary and mother of William Scranton).

The Spanish Mission Conference of New Mexico (MEC) and the Mexican Frontier Conference (MECS) organize.

MacLay College of Theology opens in San Francisco, forerunner of the School of Theology at Claremont.

Florida Conference College (MECS) is founded in Leesbury (today Florida Southern College in Lakeland).

Southwest Kansas Conference College (now Southwestern College) is founded by the MEC in Winfield, Kansas.

1886 Anna Howard Shaw is the only woman in the graduating class of the Boston University medical school.

The interdenominational Student Volunteer Movement is formed. For over 60 years it is the channel for the overseas missionary concerns of thousands of American college students.

Ewha Woman's University, Seoul, Korea begins as a class in the home of WFMS (MEC) missionary Mary F. Scranton. It will eventually become the largest college for women in the world.

The MECS opens a mission in Japan, appointing Dr. and Mrs. J.W. Lambuth, Dr. and Mrs. W.R. Lambuth, and Rev. and Mrs. O.A. Duke. The Lambuths have already served many years in China.

Kansas Wesleyan University (MEC) opens in Salina, Kansas.

The Kentucky Conference of the MEC purchases Union College, Barbourville, Kentucky.

1887 Isabella Thoburn founds the first Christian woman's college in Asia (Lucknow, India).

Nannie B. Gaines arrives in Japan as an MECS missionary. She remains in Japan for 45 years, until

her death in 1932.

Nebraska Wesleyan University (MEC) is founded in Lincoln.

Shenandoah Seminary (founded in 1875) in Winchester, Virginia is acquired by the UB. Today it is Shenandoah University.

The MP organizes an Indian Mission Conference.

1888 Frances E. Willard, Mary Clarke Nind, Amanda C. Rippey, Angie F. Newman, and Elizabeth D. Van Kirk are elected delegates to the MEC General Conference, but are denied seating.

The General Conference recognizes deaconess work as an official institution of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Between 1888 and 1908, deaconess work is established in all the predecessors of The United Methodist Church.

The Centenary Conference on Protestant Missions is held in London.

California German, North Pacific German, and North West Norwegian-Danish Missions (MEC) are established. Within a few years they become Mission Conferences.

The Charleston Colored Mission Conference (MP) is organized.

Primitivo Rodríguez begins translating and editing resources in Spanish for the MEC.

Bishop William Taylor takes over the work of the Congregational Church in Mozambique for the Methodist Episcopal Church.

The University of Puget Sound (MEC) is founded in Tacoma, Washington.

1889 Ella Niswonger becomes the first woman ordained in the United Brethren Church.

The Epworth League is founded (MEC). It is established in the MECS the following year.

Eugenia St. John is ordained an elder by the Kansas Annual Conference of the Methodist Protestant Church.

The UB opens a mission in China, appointing George Sickafoose, Moy Ling, Austia Petterson, and Lillian Shaffner to the Canton area.

The Church of United Brethren in Christ (Old Constitution) splits from its parent body.

The MEC opens a mission in St. Petersburg, Russia, sending Bengt A. Carlsson, Presiding Elder of the Finnish District.

Enrique Someillán becomes the first Cuban Methodist pastor in Key West, Florida.

1890 The Woman's Home Missionary Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, under the leadership of Lucinda B. Helm, is recognized by the church's General Conference.

Scarritt Bible and Training School (MECS) is founded in Kansas City, largely through the efforts of Belle



Harris Bennett. (In 1924 it moves to Nashville.)

Texas Wesleyan University (MECS) is founded in Fort Worth as Polytechnic College.

The MEC founds West Virginia Wesleyan College in Buckhannon as West Virginia Conference Seminary.

Millsaps College (MECS) opens in Jackson, Mississippi.

- 1891 Second Ecumenical Methodist Conference, in Washington, DC.

The Lucy Webb Hayes Deaconess Home Training School (MEC), Washington, DC is dedicated.

The EA General Conference approves a Young People's Alliance.

Randolph-Macon Woman's College (MECS) is chartered in Lynchburg, Virginia.

The New Mexico Spanish Mission Conference (MEC) is organized.

- 1892 Four women delegates are seated at the General Conference of the Methodist Protestant Church: laywomen Melissa M. Bonnett, Mrs. M.J. Morgan, and Mrs. A.E. Murphy; and clergywoman Eugenia St. John. Eugenia St. John is thus the first woman clergy delegate to any General Conference in the United Methodist tradition.

Regina Bigler, M.D., arrives at the UB mission in China, beginning a 32 year career.

The West Norwegian-Danish Mission (MEC) is established.

Iliff School of Theology is established in Denver, Colorado.

Scarritt Bible and Training School (MECS) is established in Kansas City, Missouri, to train workers for foreign mission fields.

- 1893 The Woman's Home Missionary Society of the Methodist Protestant Church is organized.

The World's Columbian Exposition is held in Chicago. The World's Parliament of Religions is held at the same time.

The first women delegates are seated at the General Conference of the United Brethren in Christ (Mattie Brewer and Mrs. S.J. Staves).

Laura Askew Haygood (MECS) opens the McTyeire School for Girls in Shanghai, China.

American University is chartered as an MEC-related institution in Washington, DC.

The Central Swedish Conference (MEC) is organized.

- 1894 The United Evangelical Church breaks away from the Evangelical Association.

Morningside College (MEC) is founded in Sioux City, Iowa.

The Western, Central, and Northern Swedish Mission

Conferences (MEC) are organized.

- 1895 The MECS opens a mission field in Korea.

Phineas Bresee and J.P. Widney found the Church of the Nazarene.

United Brethren begin mission in Japan with George Iris and U. Yoniyama.

Mrs. Hartman from Oregon is the first female member of an Evangelical Association annual conference.

- 1896 The New England Deaconess Hospital is established in Boston.

The Chickasaw Mission Conference (MP) is organized.

The Dallas Colored Mission Conference (MP) is organized.

The West Norwegian-Danish Conference (MEC) is organized.

- 1897 British and American missions in Germany merge

The UB General Conference officially approves deaconess service.

- 1898 Seven missionaries of the United Brethren Woman's Missionary Association are massacred in Sierra Leone.

The MEC opens a mission in Southern Rhodesia.

The Central Ohio Conference (MEC) purchases Northeastern Ohio Normal (established in 1871) in Ada, Ohio. Today the school is named Ohio Northern University.

Chicago German Mission Conference (MP) is organized.

- 1899 Bishop James M. Thoburn begins mission work in the Philippines.

The UB sends the Rev. and Mrs. H. H. Huffman as its first missionaries to Puerto Rico.

Methodism is established in Cuba by the MECS.

- 1900 A Lay Conference is established, parallel to the Annual Conference of clergy, in the MEC; it grants women "equal laity rights."

An Evangelical mission is begun in China.

Susan Bauernfeind arrives in Tokyo, the first missionary sent by the Woman's Missionary Society of the Evangelical Association.

The Japanese Mission Conference (MEC) is established.

The WFMS of the MP sends Annette Lawrence and Grace Hill to Shanghai to begin a Chinese mission.

C.W. Drees arrives in Puerto Rico to establish MEC work on the island.

- 1901 The Woman's Home Missionary Society of the MECS begins work at Paine Institute (founded 1883) in Augusta, Georgia, its first work with blacks.

Ella Niswonger is elected the first woman clergy



	delegate to a United Brethren General Conference.	The Federal Council of Churches of Christ in America is founded.
	Third Ecumenical Methodist Conference, London	The title "presiding elder" is replaced by "district superintendent" in the MEC.
	The UB Women's Missionary Association sends the first UB missionaries to the Philippines.	The Church of the Nazarene is founded.
1902	Indiana Central University (MEC) is founded in Indianapolis. It becomes the University of Indianapolis in 1986.	The Pacific Swedish Mission Conference (MEC) is organized.
	Rev. Edgar James Helms begins the outreach program now known as Goodwill Industries in Boston's South End.	Mary J. Platt School for Spanish girls (MECS) opens in Tucson, Arizona.
	Juan Vázquez is the first Puerto Rican to be licensed as a local preacher (MEC).	c1909 The Brotherhood, a UB men's fellowship group, is organized.
1903	Laymen are voted membership in the EA General Conference, but denied membership in annual conferences.	1909 The MP begins mission work in China.
	The EA General Conference creates a Deaconess Society.	1910 The Woman's Societies of the MECS are joined under one Woman's Missionary Council and made part of the general missionary organization of the church. Belle Harris Bennett is president of the Council until 1922.
	Lindsey Wilson College (MECS) is founded in Columbia, Kentucky.	The MECS General Conference denies women laity rights.
	Emily Pruden deeds her school to the Woman's Home Missionary Society of the MECS, which opens Ebenezer Mitchell Industrial School and Home, now Pfeiffer College in Misenheimer, North Carolina.	The World Missionary Conference is held in Edinburgh, Scotland.
1904	Women are given laity rights and admitted to the MEC General Conference as delegates.	The MEC introduces graded Sunday school lessons.
	Ladies Aid Societies, as old as American Methodism, are officially recognized in the 1904 <i>MEC Book of Discipline</i> , although there is never an official denominational agency.	The first MP deaconess, Emma Ray, is consecrated.
	Mary McLeod Bethune founds the Daytona Normal and Industrial School for Negro Girls in Daytona Beach, Florida. After merger in 1923 with Cookman Institute, the school becomes Bethune-Cookman College.	Mellie Perkins begins work as a UB missionary in Velarde, New Mexico.
	The EA begins mission work in China.	1911 The MEC opens mission work in Congo with John and Helen Springer.
	Oklahoma City University is founded as Epworth University by the MEC and MECS.	Fourth Ecumenical Methodist Conference, Toronto.
1906	The MP begins mission work in India.	1913 Puerto Rico Mission Conference (MEC) is organized, superseding the Puerto Rico Mission.
1907	E. Stanley Jones (MEC) begins mission work in India.	Ferrum Junior College (now Ferrum College) is founded in Ferrum, Virginia by the Woman's Missionary Society of the Virginia Annual Conference (MECS).
	The Methodist Federation for Social Service (later Social Action) is founded.	The Lake Junaluska Assembly grounds open as a "Chautauqua-type" assembly for southern Methodism.
	The UB purchases property at Velarde, New Mexico for a school. Eventually, the church will support five schools in four communities, including Edith McCurdy High School in Santa Cruz.	The first Wesley Foundation is organized for ministry to college students at the University of Illinois.
	Laymen are admitted to EA annual conferences as members.	1914 World War I begins.
1908	The Methodist Federation for Social Service prepares a Social Creed, which is adopted by the MEC General Conference. Similar statements are adopted by the other predecessors of The United Methodist Church.	The MECS Congo mission is formally organized, with missionaries Dr. and Mrs. D. L. Mumpower, Rev. and Mrs. C.C. Bush, and Mrs. and Mrs. J.A. Stockwell.
	A mission to Manchuria is begun by the MECS.	Candler School of Theology is founded by the MECS. It affiliates with Emory University in 1915.
		1915 Southern Methodist University and its theological school (now Perkins School of Theology) open in Dallas.
		1917 The U.S. enters the war.
		1918 Armistice is signed November 11, ending the war.
		The MECS opens a mission in Cuba



- Birmingham-Southern College (MECS) in Birmingham, Alabama is formed from the merger of Southern University (founded 1856) and Birmingham College (founded 1898).
- The MEC and MECS launch The Missionary Centenary Fund to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the Methodist Missionary Society. The two-year program earns millions, which are used to strengthen home and foreign missions of both churches.
- 1919 Prohibition amendment (the 18th) is ratified on January 16.
- The northern and southern Methodist churches celebrate the centennial of American Methodist missions and launch the Centenary Movement, a financial campaign in support of worldwide missions.
- The MECS begins mission work in Belgium.
- 1920 The 19th Amendment gives women the vote.
- The local preacher's license, first step to ordained ministry, is officially extended to women in the MEC *Book of Discipline*.
- The MEC begins work in the Dominican Republic.
- The MECS begins work in Poland and Czechoslovakia.
- Robert E. Jones and Matthew W. Clair become the first African American bishops (MEC) elected to serve in the United States.
- The Latin American Mission (MEC) is established.
- 1921 The Baltic and Slavic Mission is formed from work begun by the MEC in Lithuania (1904), Latvia (1912), and Estonia (1921).
- Fifth Ecumenical Methodist Conference, London
- The MECS launches a mission in Siberia.
- The Evangelical Church opens a mission on Red Bird Creek, Beverly, Kentucky.
- 1922 The MECS begins missions in Belgium, Czechoslovakia, and Poland-Danzig.
- The first women are seated as delegates at a General Conference of the MECS (18 lay delegates).
- The United Evangelical Church and the Evangelical Association reunite to form The Evangelical Church.
- The Woman's Missionary Society of The Evangelical Church is organized.
- The WFMS of the MP begins mission work in India.
- 1923 The first *Cokesbury Hymnal* is published.
- Asbury Theological Seminary opens in Wilmore, Kentucky.
- McMurry University (MECS) is founded in Abilene, Texas.
- 1924 Methodist Episcopal women are given limited clergy rights ("local" ordination).
- 1926 Duke University's School of Religion (now Divinity School) opens.
- 1926 The California Oriental Mission (MECS) is established.
- 1928 The Evangelical Congregational Church is legally established, made up of a minority of the United Evangelical Church that did not reunite with the Evangelical Association in 1922.
- 1930 Korean Methodist Church is formed from the missions of the Methodist Episcopal Church and the Methodist Episcopal Church, South.
- Methodist Church of Brazil becomes autonomous.
- Methodist Church in Mexico becomes autonomous.
- Mrs. B. W. Lipscomb is sent by the Woman's Missionary Council (MECS) to organize the women of the Texas-Mexico and Western Mexico Conferences.
- 1931 Sixth Ecumenical Methodist Conference, Atlanta, Georgia.
- The Association of Southern Women for the Prevention of Lynching, led by Jessie Daniel Ames (MECS), is founded.
- 1933 The 21st Amendment repeals Prohibition.
- 1934 Kendall College opens as Evanston (Illinois) Collegiate Institute (MEC).
- 1935 Mary McLeod Bethune is named director of the Negro Division of the National Youth Administration, a position she holds until 1943. In 1935 she also becomes the first president of the National Council of Negro Women.
- The MEC, MECS, and MP issue a joint hymnal.
- The Upper Room*, a devotional magazine, begins publication.
- 1939 War begins in Europe.
- The Methodist Episcopal Church, the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, and the Methodist Protestant Church reunite to form The Methodist Church.
- Mary McLeod Bethune and others oppose the formation of the Central Jurisdiction in the Methodist Plan of Union because it reinforces segregation.
- The various women's home and foreign missionary societies and other women's groups of the three uniting churches are joined and become the Woman's Society of Christian Service. The Wesleyan Service Guild remains a separate organization.
- Georgia Harkness, active MEC leader and local elder, becomes professor of applied theology at Garrett Biblical Institute, the first woman to hold such a position at a major seminary.
- Helen Kim becomes president of Ewha Woman's College (later University), a position she will hold until her retirement in 1961.
- Homer Rodeheaver's *Christian Service Songs* is published.



- 1940 First meeting of the Central Jurisdiction (MC); W. A. C. Hughes and Lorenzo King are elected its first two bishops.
- The Women's Society of Christian Service, Central Jurisdiction, is formed.
- Asociacion de Damas Evangelica de Puerto Rico* is founded.
- The Pacific Japanese Provisional Conference (MC) is organized, superseding the Pacific Japanese Mission.
- 1941 The U.S. enters World War II.
- The Provisional Annual Conference of Puerto Rico (MC) is organized.
- The Latin American Provisional Conference (MC) is organized.
- 1942 The UB begins Hispanic work in Tampa, Florida.
- 1944 The Methodist Church launches the Crusade for Christ, a four year post-war reconstruction and missionary program.
- The MC adopts its first *Book of Worship*, prepared by the Commission on Worship of The Methodist Church, 1940-1944.
- The MC Council of Bishops launches the Crusade for a New World Order to support international peace efforts.
- 1945 V-E and V-J days signal the end of World War II.
- The California Oriental Provisional Conference (MC) is organized, superseding the California Oriental Mission.
- 1946 The Evangelical United Brethren Church (EUB) is formed from the merger of The Evangelical Church and the United Brethren in Christ.
- The first women delegates attend the General Conference of the Evangelical Church, then the joint EUB General Conference immediately following (Irene Haumersen and Mrs. Edward Stukenberg).
- Women are denied ordination in the newly organized EUB Church.
- With the formation of the EUB Church, the women's organizations merge to become the Women's Society of World Service. The Christian Service Guild remains a separate entity until 1958.
- John R. Mott, Methodist ecumenist, is awarded the Nobel Peace Prize.
- Luis P. Tirre is the first Latino district superintendent in California.
- 1947 Seventh Ecumenical Methodist Conference, Springfield, Massachusetts.
- Rocky Mountain College, supported by the MC, Presbyterians, and the Church of Christ is formed in Billings, Montana from three predecessor schools. Its Methodist ancestor is Montana Wesleyan, founded in 1923.
- 1948 The World Council of Churches is organized John R. Mott and Bishop G. Bromley Oxnam (both MC) are elected founding presidents.
- The MC launches Advance for Christ and His Church, 1948-1952, to some degree a continuation of The Crusade for Christ.
- The Southwest Mexican Conference becomes the Rio Grande Conference (MC).
- 1949 Dorothy Rogers Tilly, Methodist laywoman and member of President Truman's Commission on Civil Rights, founds the Fellowship of the Conference, an interracial group dedicated to seeking courtroom justice for blacks in the South.
- 1950 The National Council of the Churches of Christ in the USA is organized.
- The Oriental Provisional Conference (MC) is organized.
- 1951 The Eighth Ecumenical Methodist Conference, Oxford, organizes standing committees and officially adopts the name "World Methodist Council."
- The Interpreter's Bible is published by Abingdon Press (MC).
- 1952 The Revised Standard Version of the Bible is published.
- Huston-Tillotson College is formed by the merger of Tillotson College (founded 1877 for freed slaves by the Congregational Church) and Samuel Huston College (founded by the MEC West Texas Conference in 1900 for African Americans).
- 1954 The World Council of Churches convenes in Evanston, Illinois.
- One of the lawyers who argues the landmark case *Brown vs. the Board of Education* is Charles S. Scott, a Methodist layman.
- 1955 First *Hymnario Metodista* is published.
- 1956 Women in The Methodist Church win full clergy rights; Maud Keister Jensen is the first woman to be granted such rights.
- Ninth World Methodist Conference, Lake Junaluska, North Carolina
- The World Federation of Methodist Women is formed.
- The MC General Conference authorizes the formation of the Methodist Theological School in Ohio, located north of Columbus.
- North Carolina Wesleyan College (MC) is chartered in Rocky Mount.
- The MC General Conference adopts Amendment IX, which provides a framework for the elimination of the Central Jurisdiction.
- The Latin American Provisional Conference in California (MC) is dissolved.
- 1958 Saint Paul School of Theology, Kansas City, Missouri, is chartered as the National Methodist Theological Seminary (MC).
- 1959 Alaska Methodist University (now Alaska Pacific University) opens in Anchorage.



- 1960 Methodist College (MC) opens in Fayetteville, North Carolina.  
The Central Jurisdiction forms a Committee of Five to study ways of eliminating the jurisdiction.
- 1961 Tenth World Methodist Conference, Oslo, Norway  
Virginia Wesleyan College (MC) is founded in Norfolk.  
The United States breaks relations with Cuba. Missionaries are recalled and Cuban pastors follow.
- 1962 The Methodist Church of Nigeria becomes autonomous.  
The Evangelical Methodist Church of Italy becomes autonomous.
- 1963 The Methodist Church of Ceylon becomes autonomous.
- 1964 The Methodist Church of Upper Burma becomes autonomous.  
The Methodist Church of Indonesia becomes autonomous.
- 1965 The Methodist Church of Lower Burma becomes autonomous.  
The Methodist Church in Zambia unites with two others to form the United Church of Zambia.  
The Rio Grande Conference (MC) begins administering its own funds.
- 1966 Eleventh World Methodist Conference, London, England.  
The MC *Book of Worship* is revised in anticipation of the coming MC / EUB merger.  
Good News is organized as an unofficial conservative caucus within the MC.
- 1967 The Methodist Church of Sierra Leone becomes autonomous.  
Margaret Henrichsen (Maine Methodist Annual Conference) is the first American woman district superintendent.  
Hawaii Loa College opens near Honolulu, a joint venture of the Methodist, Presbyterian, and Episcopal denominations.  
The last session of the Central Jurisdiction is held in Nashville.  
The Puerto Rico Annual Conference (MC) is organized.
- 1968 The Methodist Church and the Evangelical United Brethren merge to form The United Methodist Church.  
Roy C. Nichols becomes the first African American to be elected bishop by a regional jurisdictional conference in the new UMC.  
Black Methodists for Church Renewal is organized. The General Commission on Religion and Race is formed.  
The Methodist Church of Kenya becomes autonomous.
- The Methodist Church of the Caribbean and the Americas becomes autonomous.
- 1969 The Methodist Church of Cuba becomes autonomous.  
The Methodist Church of Malaysia-Singapore becomes autonomous.  
The Methodist Church of Pakistan becomes autonomous.  
The Methodist Church of Chile becomes autonomous.  
The Methodist Church of Argentina becomes autonomous.  
The Belgian Annual Conference becomes part of the Protestant Church of Belgium.  
Twelfth World Methodist Conference, Denver, Colorado.  
CIEMAL, the Council of Evangelical Methodist Churches in Latin America, is organized.
- 1971 Women's organizations in The United Methodist Church merge to form United Methodist Women.  
"The Jesus Movement" becomes a much-publicized element of religion in America.  
MARCHA, the Hispanic caucus, is formed.
- 1971 By joining the staff of the Board of Global Ministries, Homer Noley becomes the first Native American to serve on the staff of a general board or agency.
- 1972 General Conference ratifies the formation of United Methodist Women. The General Commission on the Status and Role of Women is also established and funded.  
The Native American caucus is formed (now the Native American International Caucus).  
Wilbur Wong Yan Choy becomes the first Asian-American bishop.  
General Conference passes legislation, the Enabling Act, authorizing prospective autonomy for the church in Puerto Rico.  
The Oklahoma Indian Mission becomes the Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference.
- 1974 The National Federation of Asian American United Methodists is formed.
- 1976 Ten women are elected as the first women clergy delegates to the United Methodist General Conference.  
Thirteenth World Methodist Conference, Dublin, Ireland.  
Mai Gray becomes the first African-American president of the Women's Division of the Board of Global Ministries.  
The Oklahoma Indian Mission Conference granted voting privileges at General Conference
- 1980 Marjorie Matthews is the first woman to be elected bishop of The United Methodist Church.



- 1981 Fourteenth World Methodist Conference, Honolulu, Hawaii.
  - 1983 Marjorie Suchoki (an Episcopalian) is selected as the first woman Dean of a United Methodist seminary (Wesley Theological Seminary).
  - 1984 Leontine T. C. Kelly becomes the first African American woman to be elected bishop.  
  
Elias G. Galván becomes the first Hispanic to be elected bishop.
  - 1986 Fifteenth World Methodist Conference, Nairobi, Kenya.
  - 1989 *The United Methodist Hymnal* is published.
  - 1990 Fifty women serve The United Methodist Church as district superintendents.
  - 1991 Sixteenth World Methodist Conference, Singapore
  - 1992 *The UMC Book of Worship* is published.  
  
Africa University in Zimbabwe opens for classes. Sponsored by the UMC, it is the first private university in sub-Saharan Africa.
  - 1996 Seventeenth World Methodist Conference, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.
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