

**Migrant/diaspora Ministry Case Study Stories**  
**MCB-UMC Concordat Group**  
**2020-2021**

*Groups of Christians are migrating around God's world. It is often their joy to find a Methodist church in their host country or to begin new congregations in their new homes, and these developments are to be celebrated. At the same time some of the host churches do not fully include "strangers" into their contexts. Sometimes these new congregations develop without respecting Methodist connectional agreements or other ecumenical covenants in their host country, and these incidents are to be mourned.*

*The Methodist Church in Britain and The United Methodist Church are working together to collect the stories of such experiences so as to share good practice and learn lessons across their churches. This form is designed for global Methodists to better understand both of those responses.*

*You are invited to share your story, as a case study. Your case study is a narrative that serves as an example of what you have experienced as a migrant church or with a migrant church. It can be a positive story or one of pain. The stories will be collected, so understandings can be gleaned, and steps forward can be made together. We suggest you write your case study by responding to the questions below, thinking through the following prisms for your situation:*

- *Welcome: Where has a good welcome been experienced by diaspora communities/migrants, and what has been a good welcome? Where has welcome been not as positive?*
- *Discipline: Where have we seen patterns of behavior that have been less than hospitable and how have these patterns been addressed?*
- *Diversity: Where have we seen churches enlarge their understanding of who they are through the inclusion of diaspora Methodists?*
- *Representative leadership: Where have we seen those from the diaspora Methodist communities exercise leadership within the host church with appropriate accountability?*

*Please use one form for each case study. If you have more than one case study to share, please use multiple forms.*

The city and country where the experience you share happened: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

*Sometimes it is helpful to recontact the person who is filling out this form. If it is okay for you to be contacted by our office if needed, you may add here your name and email address:*

Your name: (optional) \_\_\_\_\_

Your email address: (optional) \_\_\_\_\_

Which of the above prisms influences your case study? \_\_\_\_\_

How do you describe the size and situation of the host church and of the migrants or migrant community in your particular setting? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

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\_\_\_\_\_

Briefly report here what happened: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

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What experience of being church is enabled through the presence of migrants or a migrant community and what reaction(s) does it produce in the host church? \_\_\_\_\_

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How has the relationship to the church of origin and to the host church developed in terms of supervision, accountability, administrative and financial agreements, and mutual relationship and/or inclusion? \_\_\_\_\_

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What else is interesting to know about your particular experience? \_\_\_\_\_

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*After you have completed this form, please return it to [jhawxhurst@umc-cob.org](mailto:jhawxhurst@umc-cob.org).*

*The deadline for completion is the 31<sup>st</sup> of March 2021.*