

Introducing the ConneXion 2025 Keynote Speakers

Rev Dr Lex Akers

**President of the South Pacific Regional Conference
National Superintendent of the Wesleyan Methodist Church of
Australia**

Lex has served as a pastor, a church planter, an educator, a District Superintendent and a national church leader! He leads from a place of biblical foundations and Spirit-led convictions. Lex continues the legacy of supportive partnership between the Australian and New Zealand churches.



Rev Dr Dennis Jackson

**Executive Director, Global Partners (The Wesleyan Church,
North America)**

As the Executive Director of Global Partners, Dennis resources missionary and national leaders around the globe in The Wesleyan Church in evangelism, church planting, leadership development and ministries of compassion. He and his wife Gwen, have over 30 years service in various Wesleyan ministries including church planting, Senior Pastor of All Shores Wesleyan in Michigan and Global Partners European Area Director. Dennis has continued the work started by Rev Dr Don Bray in supporting the development of the church in New Zealand. Dennis and Gwen have a personal stake in the Wesleyan church in New Zealand, with their daughter Jamie Ussher serving alongside husband Clint, and grand daughters Eevee and Iris, at The Well, Christchurch.



Rev Dr Mark Gorveatte

District Superintendent, Crossroads Indiana

In his role as District Superintendent of the Crossroads District, Rev Dr Mark Gorveatte serves a network of more than 100 churches through leadership development, congregational revitalization, and church multiplication. He previously served as President for Kingswood University in Sussex, New Brunswick, Canada from 2010 to 2015. Mark was the District Superintendent of the West Michigan District from 2000-2010 when 20 new churches were planted. He was DS during the period of the West Michigan - New Zealand partnership from 2003 - 2008 and was a significant resource for church planting and leadership development in the formative years of the New Zealand church.

