

Biographical Information

CLERGY NOMINEES

2012 General and Jurisdictional Conferences

Michele Bartlow

Church: Senior Pastor, Philadelphia: First United Methodist Church of Germantown

Employment/Appointment: Pastor, St. Paul UMC, Terre Hill, Lancaster County; Pastor, Reading: Central Park UMC; Director of Connectional Ministries, Eastern Pennsylvania Conference, 1996-2000; District Superintendent, East District, 2000-2005

Ministry (District, Conference, General Church): Delegate, four General Conferences since 1996 and five Jurisdictional Conferences since 1992; Conference Board of Ordained Ministry 1992-1996; currently serving on East District Committee on Ministry; Chair of Northeast Jurisdiction Committee on the Episcopacy since 2008 and member of the committee since 2000. Since 2004, serving as a director of the General Commission on Christian Unity and Inter-Religious Concerns; served also on the General Church Task Force to Study the Episcopacy.

Ecumenical Ministries: Northwest (Philadelphia) Interfaith Hospitality Network; Northwest (Philadelphia) Neighborhood Interfaith Movement

Awards/Publications: Neighborhood Interfaith Movement (Philadelphia) religious Leadership Award, 2006.

Other Information: specialized training in urban ministry, church revitalization, and multi-cultural church development. Certificate in contextual family therapy after completion of a two-year clinical training program in contextual family therapy; Married for 39 years to Thomas Bartlow; parents of three adult daughters.

Statement: At every General Conference, we hear about growth in the “global church”. Though it’s true that challenges facing the United Methodist Church have never been greater, we have the faith, the heart, and the will to become one people – one in Christ. The Call to Action of the Council of Bishops particularly points the way toward new and radical thinking about how we might come together re-shape the future of the United Methodist Church. Particularly around issues of guaranteed appointment, inclusion of people of color, women, and young people, and accountability for ministry, through prayer and discernment I expect General Conference to consider carefully what God is calling the United Methodist Church to be “for such a time as this’. I hope to have that opportunity.

Rev. Tracy L. Bass, Esq. [BA, M.Div., JD]

Church: Janes Memorial UMC

Employment/Appointment: Old Brick UMC; Haws Avenue UMC; effective July 1, 2011, Downingtown UMC. Licensed Attorney and Trial Lawyer [State of Pennsylvania] Member of the Pennsylvania State Bar Association; Member of the Bar of the US District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania. Continuing Legal Education/Training 2009; 2011 Legal Forum sponsored by GCFA for UMC Chancellors (Church Tax Law, Sexual Abuse Litigation, Mergers of Conferences, Trust Clause, Fair Process, Camping, Judicial Council, et al); over the course of career participated as member: Pennsylvania Trial Lawyers Association; Philadelphia Bar Association.

Ministry (District, Conference, General Church): District Committee of Church Location and Building; Conference Board of Trustees; Conference Board of Pensions and Health Benefits; I CARE Team; Trained Interim Pastor; Trained member of EPA Conflict Intervention Team.

Ecumenical Ministries: President Greater Norristown Area Ministerium; Guest Chaplain Pennsylvania State House of Representatives (December 8, 2009); facilitated and helped lead ecumenical prayer walk through the streets of Norristown, PA (over 300 participants).

Community Services: United Methodist Advisory Board Lutheran Theological Seminary at Philadelphia; former Board Member Norristown Hospitality Center (Day Shelter for the Homeless); former Board Chair Partners for Families (Partners For Families (PFF) is a non-profit Christian organization in Norristown, Pa, dedicated to community transformation through the development and strengthening of families by providing a network of community and faith-based supportive resources). Negotiated donated space with municipality for community garden; participated on Municipality of Norristown ad hoc committee to house residents temporarily displaced; Represented UM congregation to secure CDC funding.

Awards/Publications: JQ Jackson Scholarship Award Recipient for Academic Achievement; Honors Graduate Lutheran Theological Seminary; Denman Award Recipient for Evangelism (2009).

Other Information: Elected 2007 Interested Observer/Speaker Alcoholics Anonymous Eastern Pennsylvania Service Assembly Conference; featured cover story *Times Herald* (May 15, 2010) article: "Hope for the future: Haws Ave. UMC" speaking on the church's work to help the homeless; featured guest "Hank Cisco TV Show" to speak on plight of homeless in Norristown (June 2010).

Statement: I often think of the tragedy that would have resulted if Abraham had only heard God and failed to continue to hear from God. Yes, God instructed him to sacrifice his son, and later God said to Abraham, "Do not harm the lad." In my life and in my ministry when I often find myself not having all of the answers I am encouraged in knowing that God still speaks. My daily endeavor is to be open to continue to hear from God. May God guide us in our efforts to minister with the poor, focus on global health, grow congregations, and engage in leadership development. As we move towards this next General Conference year and

respond to the Call to Action, let us remember what God has said; yet remain open to hear what God is saying.

Rev. Doris K. Dalton

Church: Plumblin UMC

Employment/Appointment: Primary Appointment to Central District, District Resource Assistant. Secondary Appointment to Plumblin UMC, Central District

Ministry (District, Conference, General Church): Rev. Dalton has served and ministered as Deacon at Cookman United Methodist Church for 10 years. On the Central District, she has been a member of the Board of the North Philadelphia Cluster of Churches. She is the Chair of the Deacon-Elder Work Team of the EPA UMC, a member of the Steering Committee for the Order of Deacons in the EPA UMC, and a member of the Board of Directors of the Asbury Ministries of Drexel University/Wesley Foundation. She has served as Secretary for the Conference Loan Fund Board and has been a member of the Board of Directors of the Conference Loan Fund Board from 2007 to 2011. She has been a member of the CORE Team for Healing the Wounds of Racism.

Ecumenical Ministries: She is a member of the Dismantling Racism Team of the Metropolitan Christian Council of Philadelphia.

Community Services: In addition to her ministry at Cookman, she worked in the area of Truancy Intervention/Prevention in Philadelphia through a PATCH program, where she met hundreds of truant children and their families every week and helped them to resolve the issues that were contributing to truancy. She has been a member of the Economic Development Committee for Business Alliance of Local Living Economies, a national network of sustainable businesses and organizations. She has led and organized trips for members of Cookman UMC to lobby Senators and Representatives in Washington, D.C. to advocate for a balanced and moral budget, and for students from the Alternative Learning Community for Youth to lobby Pennsylvania State Representatives concerning handgun control legislation. She has founded programs to help teenage girls through their pregnancies and offered post-natal care and advocacy. She has co-taught a course on "The Economy of God" through the Alternative Seminary.

Awards/Publications: None at this time.

Other Information: Doris received her M.Div. from Eastern Theological Seminary (now Palmer Seminary), and her M.B.A. in Global Economic Development from Eastern University. She also has certifications in Urban Community Development and the Family Group Decision-Making Process. She is married to Rev. Timothy Dalton, who pastors Lower Merion Baptist Church and is also a hospice chaplain. They have two wonderful children, Evangeline who is four years old and Isaac who is one year old.

Statement: I am a Deacon, and as a Deacon my calling is to extend God's table of abundant love to those who are on the fringes of our churches, our communities,

and our society. I carry this calling in my heart as I minister to others through my work in areas of economic justice and empowerment, anti-racism, and advocacy on behalf of the poor, the voiceless, and the marginalized. As a delegate representing this Annual Conference, I will speak to issues regarding the need of the Church to transform itself to become more relevant to the needs and hurts of this current age, and to mirror biblical hospitality in its calling for ministers and servants of Christ Jesus, receiving new believers into the body of Christ, and welcoming the stranger within our gates.

Alfred T. (Fred) Day

Church: Historic St. George's

Employment/Appointment: Pastor, Historic St. George's

Ministry (District, Conference, General Church): *Former* District Superintendent (Asbury, now NW District) - 1995-2001; *Former* Dean of Cabinet 2000-2001; *Former* Board of Ordained Ministry; *Current* Conference Commission on Archives and History; *Current* NEJ Commission on Archives and History; *Current* General Commission on Archives and History

Ecumenical Ministries: Philadelphia Interfaith Community

Community Services: Regular Volunteer, Grace Café, Arch St. UMC

Awards/Publications: Articles published in *Worship Arts*, Sermons published in *The Biblical Preaching Journal*, *TEXTweek.com*, Articles published in *Annals of Eastern Pennsylvania*; Certificate of Recognition presented by The Pan Methodist Commission for "contribution that led to bridging the gap of two centuries of division between St. George's UMC and Mother Bethel AME Church, Philadelphia, October, 2009. Certificate of Recognition, Philadelphia City Council Outstanding Citizenship for participation in the formation of the Frankford Group Ministry, Summer, 1984.

Other Information: Adjunct Faculty, United Meth Studies, Princeton Theological Seminary: Doctrine, Polity, Worship

Statement: Meeting United Methodists from around the nation and the world as pastor of St. George's, a national historic landmark church, makes me keenly aware of our denominational DNA. We are people grounded in a theology of love and inclusion, with faith that seeking heartfelt experience and pragmatic outlet, passionate about putting God's love to work in world. These core values will be my basis and guide in the decision making body that sets the course for next for the UMC's continuing journey into faithfulness and on to perfection.

Rev. Joseph F. DiPaolo

Church: Wayne United Methodist Church

Employment/Appointment: 2003-present, Senior Pastor, Wayne UMC; 1992-2003 Pastor, New Hope/Solebury UMC; 1988-1992, Pastor, Wissinoming UMC (Phila); 1985-1988, Student Pastor, St. Luke UMC (Bryn Mawr)

Ministry (District, Conference, General Church): Delegate to NE Jurisdictional Conference, 1996, 2000, 2004, 2008; Delegate, World Methodist Conference (Seoul, Korea), 2006; Delegate to General Conference, 1996; Member, Commission on Archives & History (CAH); President, EPA Conference Historical Society 1999-present; Member and Secretary, Mid-Town Parish UMC Vision Table, 2008- present; Past service in EPA: Chair, ASRT; Member, CTT; Chair, Shaw/East District DCOM

Ecumenical Ministries: Adjunct Professor, Palmer Theological Seminary, 2006-present; Adjunct Professor, Evangelical Theological Seminary, 2009-present; Trustee, Evangelical Theological Seminary, 2005-present; Senior Chaplain and Trustee, Ocean City (NJ) Tabernacle, 2001-2005; President Delaware Valley Council of Churches, 2002-2003 (Sec., 1996- 2002)

Community Services: Wayne Area Ministerium; Chester County Concert Band (trumpet player)

Awards/Publications: Editor, *Annals of Eastern Pennsylvania* (annual journal of CAH & Historical Society), 2004-present; Author: "*To Your Tents O Israel: the Life of Rev. Andrew Manship, Evangelist and Entrepreneur* (Arcadia, 2009); Author: "That Dear Man of God: Edward Evans and the Origins of American Methodism," in *Methodist History* (October 2008); Author/Editor, *My Business Was to Fight the Devil*. (Tapestry Press, 1998); Author: "*A Hot Bed of Secession: New Hope and the Civil War* (Adams Apple Press, 2001); *That They all May Be One: A History of the Delaware Valley Council of Churches, 1953-2003* (2003).

Other Information: Married to Susan; three children: Christy (22), Laura (20) and Tim (18).

Statement: In recent years, the UMC has been moving in the right direction by clarifying our central mission as making disciples to transform a broken world. For renewal and reversal of our decline, we must support measures that encourage the rediscovery of our Wesleyan and evangelical heritage, equips and empowers the local church as the central locus of our ministry to the world, and reinvents our appointment system to attract and support the best and brightest of the coming generation of clergy, and deploy them in ways that maximize their effectiveness. To retain the blessing and gifts of sisters and brothers beyond the USA in an increasingly global UMC, we must revisit restructuring proposals to allow greater contextual flexibility for overseas annual conferences, while preserving their full inclusion and voice in the leadership of our church.

Rev. Dr. Christopher L Fisher

Church: First United Methodist Church, Schuylkill Haven, PA

Employment/Appointment: Senior Pastor, First UMC, Schuylkill Haven, PA; Associate Professor and Director of United Methodist Studies, Evangelical Theological Seminary, Myerstown, PA; Adjunct Professor of Theology, Asbury Theological Seminary, Wilmore, KY

Ministry (District, Conference, General Church): NW District Committee on Ordained Ministry Education co-coordinator, EPA Evangelical Connection; Transitional Chair, *Escuela Teologica Evangelica Latina* (2008-2011)

Ecumenical Ministries: Schuylkill Haven and Vicinity Council of Churches

Community Services: Chaplain, Boy Scout Troop 625, Hawk Mountain Council

Awards/Publications: *Human Significance in Theology and the Natural Sciences* (Eugene, OR: Pickwick, 2010).

Other Information: Spouse: Elizabeth (Santos) Fisher; Children: Luke, Mercy, Raquel, & Evangelina. Member, American Academy of Religion & Society of Biblical Literature.

Statement: I have been a member of the United Methodist Church since childhood, and was ordained an elder in 1995. My appointments have included St. Philip's & Mt. Pisgah, Philadelphia; West Lawn UMC as associate; University of Edinburgh, UK, for doctoral studies; and First UMC, Schuylkill Haven. I am Wesleyan and orthodox in theological conviction, and have a particular interest in the dialog between science and faith. I hold that the Scripture is the written Word of God, and am committed to uphold our UM Discipline as a faithful expression of Christian corporate life in Christ's Church. I am committed to Wesley's evangelical gospel, including its concern for the poor and broken of society and the care of God's creation.

The Reverend Dr. Andrew L. Foster, III.

Church: Janes Memorial United Methodist Church

Employment/Appointment: Philadelphia: Clearview (2000-2001); Philadelphia: Janes Memorial (2001-2003); Chester: Grace Community (2003-2009); Philadelphia: Janes Memorial (2009-Present).

Ministry (District, Conference, General Church): Served on Commission on Equitable Compensation; Served on I-Care Team; Served on Board of Ordained Ministry (Provisional Chair); Certified Lay Minister Instructor; Tools for Ministry Instructor; Rethink EPA Task Force; Mentor and Coach.

Ecumenical Ministries: Neighborhood Interfaith Movement (NIM); Northwest Community Coalition for Youth (NCCY); Black Clergy of Philadelphia; President, Black Methodist for Church Renewal, Philadelphia Caucus (BMCR), Black United Methodist Pastors (BUMP); Adjunct Professor, Palmer Theological Seminary.

Community Services: Served as Board Member of Rocky Run YMCA; Served as Board Member of The Unity Center, Inc., Served as Board Member of the Episcopal House, Inc.; Founding Owner/Member of Chester's Grocery Co-op; Founding

Member of Grace Community's Resource & Empowerment Center, Inc. (A Community Development Corporation).

Awards/Publications: Author of two books: "*So, You've Answered the Call, Now What?*" & "*So, You Say You Want to Get Married, Now What?*" - Published articles in the Philadelphia Inquirer and The Daily Times: "*The Downside of Expanded Gambling: For Better or Worse*", and "*Educational Genocide*."

Other Information: Rev. Dr. Foster is a Servant-Leader, Bridge Builder, Community Activist, Visionary, Team Builder, Motivator, Counselor, Pastor/Teacher, and Administrator.

Statement: If elected, I am confident, with God's help that I will represent our conference as a delegate to General and Jurisdictional conference with distinction and professionalism.

Rev. Dr. William Gary George

Church: Home church is Tindley Temple UMC

Employment/Appointment: District Superintendent, Central District of EPA UMC

Ministry (District, Conference, General Church): Dr. George has pastored at Camphor, Trinity Baynton, Reading: Trinity UMC, Arch Street, Mt. Carmel, and Grace. He has been serving as District Superintendent for the Central District since 2007. In addition, he has served the Healing of the Wounds of Racism as a member of the CORE Team, the I-Care Team since its inception, the Sexual Harassment Commission of the Eastern Pennsylvania Conference, and heads the Conflict-Resolution Team of the EPA UMC. He has served on many boards within the United Methodist Church, such as the Board of Ordained Ministry, the Board of Conference Trustees, the Board of Pensions, the Licensing Board for Local Pastors, Board of Equitable Salaries, and the Board of Directors for Metro Ministries, Inc.

Ecumenical Ministries: He is a member of the Interfaith Group for the Philadelphia Human Relations Commission and the Black Clergy group of Philadelphia and the Vicinity.

Community Services: Dr. George has served as consultant and therapist for the DELSTAR program and St. Gabriel's Hall, where he worked with troubled boys and young men. He has been a group therapy leader for recovering alcohol and drug addicted persons. He has worked as a chaplain and counselor for the Prison System in conjunction with the United Methodist Church. He has served as director of the Greater Ogontz Group Ministry. He has been the Adjunct Professor for Wesley Theological Seminary, Satellite of Local Pastor's School.

Awards/Publications: Dr. George was named the Preacher of the Year in 2004 by Black United Methodist Preachers and the Black Methodists for Church Renewal. He was also a contributing author for One Brother to Another.

Other Information: Dr. George is happily married to Portia George, and has one son Joel. He and his wife enjoy spending time with their constant joy, their grandson DaVion.

Statement: Focus Area Two is Revitalizing Existing Congregations -- It is extremely important for pastors and laypersons cross-culturally to provide new ministries and opportunities for existing congregations. The world is changing and is facing many challenges; therefore people are changing as they face many challenges. And even though the Gospel of our Lord and Savior Jesus the Christ is always the same, yesterday, today and tomorrow, the Gospel we teach and preach must be able to reach a new global generation that faces many challenges. We are now entering into a decade where people are focused not just for themselves, but desperately trying to change and save the world. As the world meets challenges, such as tsunamis, earthquakes, hurricanes, political upheaval, world hunger, economic disasters on Wall Street, and loss of homes, the Gospel we preach and teach must be able to take on a social context that meets the needs and challenges of the world. Jesus Christ is the Savior of the world because he can meet the needs of people spiritually, socially, and economically through the Church of Jesus Christ. Therefore, as Disciples of Christ, let us take on a bold challenge of preaching Jesus to a multi-cultural world that is facing many diverse opportunities.

As a delegate to the General Conference, it is my desire and aim to continue to empower pastors and leaders to also preach and teach a global Gospel to a new generation.

\Rev. Gregory Holston

Church: St. Matthew UMC, Trevoise PA

Employment/Appointment: St. Matthew UMC, Trevoise, PA

Ministry (District, Conference, General Church): Member, Conference Committee on Finance and Administration (CCFA) (2009 -Present); Member, Bishop's Blue Ribbon Panel (2009-2010); Chairperson, East District Superintendency Committee, (2007-2010); President, Black United Methodist Preachers, (2006-Present); Member, Phi Beta Club, (2010 to Present); Member, Urban Ministry Task Force, (2010 to Present); Member, Black Methodist for Church Renewal, (2004 to Present)

Ecumenical Ministries: Member, Feasterville Interfaith Mainstream , (2004- Present); Officer, Black Clergy of Philadelphia and Vicinity, (2007-Present), Conference on the Holy Spirit (2009- 2010)

Community Services: Lin Park Civic Association, Rotary International, (2006-2008), Bucks County NAACP , Bucks County YWCA Selection Panel

Awards/Publications:Alumni Preacher, Preaching with Power, Lutheran Seminary of Philadelphia (2008); Great Commission Commendation, Eastern Pennsylvania Conference (2007-2008)

Education: Georgetown University Law Center, Juris Doctorate; Lutheran Seminary of Philadelphia, Masters of Divinity; Cheyney University of Pennsylvania, Masters of Education; Indiana University of Pennsylvania, Bachelors of Arts

Statement: The solutions for our denomination's problems lie not in business slogans, demographic studies, business strategies, downsizing, or the newest corporate model. No, those are the world's solutions for its economic follies. Jesus specifically denies those models when he simply says, "And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, I will draw all peoples to myself." John 12:32

We lift up Jesus with our commitment to passionate worship, bible based discipleship, intimate fellowship, socially conscious ministry, enthusiastic evangelism, and a dedicated prayer life. It is in this encounter with the Holy Spirit that God will draw people and reveal to us everything we need to do to bring revitalization to our denomination and hope to our churches.

The Reverend Robin M. Hynicka

Biographical Information

Reverend Hynicka is the Senior Pastor of the Arch Street United Methodist Church (ASUMC) which is located in Philadelphia on the block of Broad Street just north of City Hall and just south of the Pennsylvania Convention Center. The congregation, established in 1862, is very diverse and has a long history of addressing local, national and international issues. In partnership with other congregations like Historic Saint George's, Hopewell and Swarthmore and organizations like Philadelphians Organized to Witness, Empower and Rebuild (P.O.W.E.R.), Project Home, Asian Americans United and the Nationalities Service Center, ASUMC calls persons to new life in Jesus Christ, develops the next generation of Christian leaders, seeks to eliminate homelessness, addresses local and international poverty, promotes community economic development and provides hospitality for recent refugees.

Raised in Lancaster County, Mountville, PA, Robin is a graduate of the following schools – Hempfield High School, Albright College, BA Religion and Duke University Divinity School, M. Div. In May of 2008, Robin was granted an honorary doctorate by Albright College and has since been elected to Albright's Board of Trustees. He serves on the National Committee for Communities of Shalom, a grassroots, faith-based initiative promoting congregational and community development and administered by Drew Theological School. In addition, Robin is a founding member of the No Casino in the Heart of Our City Coalition, a member of the P.O.W.E.R. Sponsoring Committee, a member Magee Rehabilitation Hospital's Ethics Committee and serves on the Advisory Board of the Community Design Collaborative. As a candidacy mentor approved by the Board of Ordained Ministry, Robin has assisted several candidates for ordained ministry discern and focus their call to ministry. Currently, three young adults from ASUMC are pursuing ordination in the United Methodist Church.

Before being appointed to ASUMC in November 2004, Robin served in the following appointments: Student Assistant to the Advocate-St. Stephen's United Methodist Church, Germantown; Associate Pastor to the United Methodist Mid Town Parish, North Philadelphia; Pastor to the Cookman United Methodist Church, North Philadelphia; Founding Executive Director of the North Central Ministry, North Philadelphia; Executive Director of the Frankford Group Ministry, Frankford and Pastor of the Central and Rehoboth United Methodist Churches, Frankford. During his time in Frankford, Robin served as the President of the Frankford Group Ministry Community Development Corporation, President of the Frankford Human Relations Coalition and President of FrankfordStyle – a community school for the arts. While in Frankford, Robin administered, annually, over 2 million dollars in grants, donations and gifts. In addition, he oversaw the development of 24 new homes and 33 rehabilitated homes for first time homebuyers and the construction of 50 apartments for low-income senior citizens. While Robin has been at ASUMC, over 80 new members have been received, a 1.2 million dollar capital campaign has been completed and a third worship service has been added that welcomes over 50 folks most of whom are experiencing homelessness.

For 33 years, informed by the principles of total inclusivity and indigenous leadership, Robin has been engaged in making disciples, developing congregations and building communities of practical love, peace and justice. Together with his wife Weslia and inspired by two granddaughters, Lyla and Keenan, Robin looks forward to advancing the cause of Christ and demonstrating the steadfast love of God.

Rev. Dr. Christopher Jacob Kurien

Appointment: District Superintendent

Ministry (District, Conference, General Church): District: Initiated programs for the benefit of Children, Youth and Older Adults on the District and organized the Council on Ministry and the four clusters that now meets regularly. Conference: Dean of the Cabinet, Member of Board of Ordained Ministry, Conference Trustees, Conference Sessions, Nominations Committee, Latino Commission, Connectional Table and Structure Review Team, General Church: Board member, General Commission on Religion and Race and Member Planning and Evaluation Team.

Ecumenical Ministries: Advisory Board Member, Lutheran Theological Seminary.

Community Services: Participation in mission projects

Other Information: Council Member, World Methodist Council, Board Member, Methodist Hospital Foundation, Affiliate Member, American Association of Marriage and Family Therapy

Statement: Much more than in the past, the decisions before General Conference are made in a global context, as we seek to make disciples of Jesus Christ as a world-wide connection. Being born in India, I embrace and cherish the blessings

of the diverse, global nature of our church and understand the challenges that go along with it. In that way, I bring an awareness of the wider implications of our decisions that would benefit the work of our delegation as a whole. As there are many pressing issues before the General Conference in 2012, I promise to take my responsibility very seriously to honor our Wesleyan heritage and make decisions that are good for our denomination .

James F. McIntire

Church: Havertown: Hope

Employment/Appointment: *Current Pastoral Appointment:* Hope United Methodist Church, Havertown, PA (Senior Pastor, 2008-present); *Previous Pastoral Appointments:* Prospect United Methodist Church, Prospect Park, PA (Senior Pastor, 2006-2008); West Grove United Methodist Church, West Grove, PA (Interim Pastor, 2005-2006); Open Vision, Philadelphia, PA (New Church Start, 2005); The United Methodist Church of Bala Cynwyd, Bala Cynwyd, PA (Senior Pastor, 2002-2005); C.C. Hancock United Methodist Church, Springfield, PA (Part-time Pastor, 1999-2001); First United Methodist Church of Germantown, Philadelphia, PA (Associate Pastor, 1993-99) ; United Methodist Church of Narberth, Narberth, PA (Senior Pastor, 1989-1993); Abington United Methodist Church, Abington, PA (Part-time Pastor, 1988-1989)

Other: Licensed Attorney (Pennsylvania) 1984-present; Chaplain, Inglis House, Part-time, 1998-2002; Chaplain, Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, Part-time, 2001-2010; Director, Center for Spirituality & Disability, 1996-present

Ministry (District, Conference, General Church): Eastern Pennsylvania Conference, the United Methodist Church; Committee on Religion & Race (CORR) (2009-present); Commission on Status & Role of Women (COSROW) (2009-present); Committee on Native American Ministries (CONAM) (2009-present); Disability Concerns Committee (2008) – Chairperson; Healing the Wounds of Racism workshop (2005); EPAC Scholarship Committee (2005-2007); East District Committee on Ordained Ministry (1992-1998); Supervising Pastor (Mentor) (1996-present); Commission on Health and Welfare Ministries (1988-1993); Commission on Equitable Compensation (1988-1993); Clergy Housing Guidelines Committee; Heritage Towers, Doylestown, PA - Board of Directors (1992-1994); Finance and Insurance Committee The United Methodist Church; UM Task Force on Disability Ministries (2010-present); Legislation Committee; UM Task Force on Developmental Disabilities (1996-2001); Legislation Committee

Ecumenical Ministries: Heeding God's Call *gun violence prevention movement* (2008-present); New Committee on Race and Ethnicity (NewCORE) (2009-present); Walking the Walk, Interfaith Center of Greater Philadelphia (2008-present); Dismantling Racism Task Force, Metropolitan Christian Council of Phila (2002-present); That All May Worship Network of Greater Philadelphia - Consultant

(1996 – 2002); National Council of Churches of Christ – Member, Committee on Disabilities (2001-03)

Community Services: Kardon Institute for Arts Therapy - Board of Directors (2002 - 2009); Montgomery County Office of Mental Retardation – Consultant (2001 – 2003); ARCoalition, Southeastern Pennsylvania – Resource Team Member (1999 – 2001); Pennsylvania Developmental Disabilities Planning Council – Faith Communities Committee (1997); Children’s Seashore House – Member Pastoral Care Committee (1996)

Awards/Publications: Awards: Mayor’s Commission on People with Disabilities, Philadelphia (October 2000); Recipient · *Access Achievement Award* · presented annually to recognize and acknowledge businesses/agencies/individuals that have made an outstanding effort and commitment to increase access for people with disabilities; Mental Retardation Services of Philadelphia (October 1999); Recipient · *Brighter Futures Award* · presented annually to individuals, agencies, and organizations which have made a significant contribution toward community inclusion and improving the quality of life of Philadelphians with developmental disabilities; National Organization on Disability (NOD) (May 2001); Honoree · consultant to First United Methodist Church of Germantown honored at national press conference as 2000th congregation committed to the Accessible Congregations Campaign; Articles: *Respecting the Urge to Join* (Winter 2002) Impact Magazine, Institute on Community Integration, University of Minnesota *Changing Attitudes, Changing Space: Welcoming People with Disabilities* (September/October 2000) Congregations, The Alban Institute Journal Policy: *1996 Discipline, The United Methodist Church* The Social Community and Rights of Persons with Disabilities ¶ 66(G); The Annual Conference Committee on Disability Concerns, ¶ 649 Disability Awareness Sunday, ¶ 269.4 Video: *Mental Illness . . . Paint a Different Picture*, (November 1998) EcuFilm; United Methodist Communications Disability Teaching: *Missed Interpretations: Disability Theology; When Justice Rolls Down Jacob’s Ramp; Who Has Access to God?: Disability, Spirituality and Worship; More Than A Ramp: Disabilities, Civil Rights and the Church; Walk This Way: Biblical Perspectives on Disability; A Theology of Disability: Liberation and Choice*

Other Information: Education: Princeton Theological Seminary · Masters of Divinity, 1989; Widener University School of Law · Juris Doctor, 1984; Rider University Bachelor of Arts, *cum laude*, political science, 1981; Children: Timothy (26); Lindsay (22); Lacey (20)

Statement: I am interested in serving as a General Conference Delegate for a number of reasons:

Gun Violence Prevention -- In 2009, I was a founding member of Heeding God's Call which formed in Philadelphia as a multi-faith movement to end gun violence. Twelve religious leaders, including myself, were arrested in a direct action taken against Colosimo's Gun Center in Philadelphia. Following our acquittal by the courts, our movement continues to grow and has contributed to the eventual closing of Colosimo's, one of the worst gun retailers on the Brady Center's list of

bad actors as the federal government indicted the shop for the exact practices we have been protesting. *Heeding God's Call* continues to grow and develop momentum – chapters now exist in Philadelphia, in Northwest Philadelphia, in Harrisburg, in the Lehigh Valley, in Baltimore, in Washington, DC, and in Columbus, OH. Our goal is to have *Heeding* be a national grassroots, faith-based movement and we are working closely with the General Board of Church & Society to inform United Methodism across the denomination. I am now Chairperson of Heeding's Coordinating and Steering Committees and have drafted a petition for General Conference for which we are seeking GBCS endorsement and support. In November 2009, the Council of Bishops cited the work of *Heeding God's Call* in a Foundation Document in support of its Pastoral Letter, *God's Renewed Creation: Call to Hope and Action*. As a delegate, I will advocate for gun violence prevention legislation.

Disability Ministries – For more than 20 years I have been advocating and working for the full inclusion of people with disabilities in worshipping congregations. On behalf of the UM Task Force on Disability Ministries I drafted resolutions which were adopted by the 1996 General Conference and became a part of the UMC's current Discipline positions regarding persons with disabilities. As a current member of this denomination-wide task force of GBGM I have helped draft four petitions which are being submitted to the 2012 General Conference strengthening the place of people with disabilities as fully active members of our local churches and the Body of Christ. I will continue to advocate for people with disabilities as a General Conference delegate.

Ministry Study – While I agree that the Church needs to address the issue of clergy effectiveness and the future of vocational ministry, I am not convinced that the recommendations of the current Ministry Study will achieve the goals that we identify as critical. I am particularly concerned that the recommendation related to “guaranteed appointment” will have a negative impact on the prophetic voice of pastors in our pulpits and will cause some clergy to be hesitant in addressing critical social issues. I also suspect that it will have a negative impact on people of color in professional ministry, on women in professional ministry, and on the urban church which needs our support rather than a retreat from missional work within our cities. I fear that by adopting this recommendation we will severely restrict the flow of younger persons into ministry and we will move the Church even further away from a qualified, effective and full-time professional clergy.

Global Ministries – As an international denomination the UMC is in a unique position in that it reaches a diverse and wide-ranging population. In 1996, I visited Haiti as part of a Parish Twinning Program developing a relationship between an Eastern Pennsylvania congregation and a rural Peasant Association in Fondwa, Haiti. In April 2010 I visited South Africa where I began developing a relationship with Central Methodist Church in Johannesburg which is housing refugees from Zimbabwe and I spoke at an ecumenical gathering in Durban focused on the Church's need to be welcoming and inclusive. In March 2011, I returned to Haiti as part of a 10-member Volunteers in Mission (VIM) team representing 4 Eastern Pennsylvania churches to assist in post-earthquake relief efforts. It is key to a

successful ministry in the world to reach beyond our own denominational and national boundaries without insisting on being the dominant presence in mission work

Inclusion and Justice – During the past 23 years of ministry I have found myself focused on various ministries of inclusion and will continue to advocate for vision and direction for the denomination which will make us more welcoming and inclusive. I have particularly focused in inclusion and justice within the church and society for people with disabilities, for those of differing sexual and gender orientations, and against racism and its institutional entrenchment. As a delegate I will continue to work toward inclusion and justice.

Alan J. Smith

Church: Tabor United Methodist Church

Employment/Appointment: Tabor United Methodist Church (Previous appointments: Faith Alive in Bowmanstown; Haws Avenue in Norristown; Analomink/Cherry Lane/Woodale Churches in East Stroudsburg Area.)

Ministry (District, Conference, General Church): Currently Chair the Board of Ordained Ministry of the E PA Conference

Ecumenical Ministries: In addition to an ecumenical faith journey, has served as Community Spiritual Director in the Eastern PA Conference Emmaus Walk Mountaintop Community and on numerous weekends as a spiritual director over the last 20 years.

Community Services: Involved with and past board member of the Interfaith Hospitality Network providing housing for homeless people in churches across the Indian Valley Area; Has served with various ministries and on the board for the developmentally disabled providing housing, employment, and faith opportunities.

Other Information and Statement: I have served a variety of styles and sizes of churches having served settings with a staff as both Senior and Associate pastor, as well as a local pastor and student, in single church as well as multi-church appointments, in a church within a community of 30k as well as small rural churches. At a time when the church will be discussing issues relative to the status of pastors as well as many issues calling the church to mission, I believe that my love and appreciation for the local church in variety of size and culture as well as service on the Board Of Ordained Ministry will provide an informed perspective on the issues and complexity at the heart of the decisions relative to pastoral ministry, service ministry, and the call upon the church at large. I would trust that my desire to be faithful to God, a desire to reflect the love and grace of God through Jesus Christ, and a commitment to seek the discernment of the Holy Spirit would make me well qualified to serve on a team representing our conference at the General Conference Level. The UM Church's trust in Scripture, the resource of tradition, the input of reason, and the life experience of faith and ministry will provide a healthy framework for both discussion and

decision guiding the church into the future, in both the United States and across the world among all peoples.

Lillian C. Smith

Church: Charge Conference, Zoar United Methodist Church, Philadelphia, PA

Employment/Appointment: 1994-1997 Associate Pastor, Asbury United Methodist Church, Washington, DC/Chaplain-Director, Wesley Foundation – United Methodist Campus Ministry at Howard University, Washington, DC; 1997-2004 Director, Ministries with Women and Persons of Color, Campus Ministry Section, General Board of Higher Education and Ministry, The United Methodist Church, Nashville, TN; 2004-2006 Associate General Secretary, Young Peoples' Division, General Board of Discipleship, The United Methodist Church, Nashville, TN; September 2006 – July 2011 Director, Connectional Ministries/Executive Director, Congregational Transformation, Eastern Pennsylvania Conference, The United Methodist Church

Ministry (District, Conference, General Church): 1996-2004 Shared Mission Focus on Young People, an Initiative of the United Methodist Church; Co-Chair 1996-2000; 1997-2004 Strengthening the Black Church for the 21st Century Steering Committee, GBHEM Staff Resource Person; 2006-June 30, 2011 Eastern Pennsylvania Conference Committee Participation has included: Board of Ordained Ministry, Conference Committee on Finance Administration, Camping Board, Congregational Transformation Team, Nominations, and the Connectional Table. 2006-2011 Northeastern Jurisdiction Directors of Connectional Ministries, Member. Chair 2010-2011; 2006-2011 Association of Directors of Connectional Ministries; 2008- Current Multi-Ethnic Center for Ministry of the Northeastern Jurisdiction, Committee Member and Program Committee Chair; 2008-2009 Co-Chair, Elevate: Taking Young Adult Ministry to the Next Level: Resourcing Congregational and Campus Ministry with Young Adults, sponsored by the NEJ Jurisdiction Vision Table; 2010-2011 Northeastern Jurisdiction Clergywomen's Consultation Design Team, Co-Chair

Ecumenical Ministries: Community Services: MLK Observance Planning Team, King of Prussia 2011-Cub Scout Pack 551 Committee Member (2010-Current); Bethlehem Centers of Nashville, Board Member (1995 -1997)

Awards/Publications: Articles/writings include but not limited to: 365 Meditations for Mothers by Mothers, 365 Meditations for Women by Women, The Circuit Rider, NewSpirit, Letters from the Heart/Cartas del Corazon.

Statement: The United Methodist Church finds itself in a time of significant crisis and serious opportunity. The 2012 General Conference delegates will wrestle with issues, including "The Call to Action," that could greatly change the life and ministry of our global denomination.

As a delegate, I would bring the following attributes:

An abiding love for Jesus Christ and God's multi-cultural/multi-lingual/ multi-generational people of the global community through The United Methodist Church

A demonstrated commitment to resourcing congregations and congregational leaders so that they fulfill their mission of "Making Disciples of Jesus Christ for the Transformation of the World."

Experience in various contexts of ministry. If elected, I will well represent this conference by completing the required reading and related research. Additionally, I will attend all of the required preparatory meetings.

Herbert J. Snyder

Church: Jenkintown United Methodist

Employment/Appointment: Presently employed as (1) Board of Ordained Ministry Registrar and (2) Director of Senior Spirit at Frankford Group Ministry. Was an Ordained Pastor for 40 years, serving various churches in the conference..

Ministry (District, Conference, General Church): Active in Conference Camping for over 50 years at all levels...Chaired the Board of Ordained Ministry...Served on Religion and Race, Camping Board, Council on Ministries, Urban Ministries....president of the Conference Retired Preachers Association

Ecumenical Ministries: Philadelphia Council of Churches, Delaware County AIDS Network, Ministerium President

Community Services: Grace Cafe Homeless Feeding Program at Arch Street UMC, Frankford Group Ministry. I am also on the Executive Board of the Royal Arcanum, an international order that promotes educational and charitable work.

Other Information: I have a broad experience in the UMC on the Board of Ordained Ministry, in the educational and retreat/camping ministry of the church, and in Worship and Preaching (area in which I hold my Doctorate). As a retiree, I feel that the fastest growing segment of our population, our older adults, should have a place at the table.

Statement: Having served as a Delegate to Jurisdictional Conference and a Reserve Delegate to General Conference, I am familiar with the workings of the church. With a vast experience on the Board of Ordained Ministry, I would always vote for a clearer theological understanding of what it means to be ordained and how clergy can be more effective in serving Christ in the United Methodist Church. I have a "passion" for helping the oppressed, the weak, and the marginalized in our society.

Dr. Dorothy Watson Tatem

Dr. Dorothy Watson Tatem presently holds the position of district superintendent of the East District of the Eastern Pennsylvania Conference of The United Methodist Church. In this position she works in ministry with the 75 (3 are new church

starts) churches located in Northeast and Northwest Philadelphia and in Bucks and Montgomery Counties.

Prior to her appointment as district superintendent, Dr. Tatem served as director of the Office of Urban and Global Ministries of the EPA. Through this ministry Dr. Tatem served approximately 115 local congregations located in the 18 urban areas of the Conference. She consulted with churches to accomplish long-range planning, organizational training, coaching, providing seed grants for ministry, facilitating the general church program, Strengthening the Black Church for the 21st Century, giving Community of Shalom training and support, and doing congregational assessment and readiness for transformation. Dr. Tatem also facilitated the establishment of the Johnson-UGO Foundation Library that offered assistance to local churches, non-profits and individuals in grant seeking and proposal writing basics.

Previously, Dr. Tatem served as the Director of the Office of Resourcing which assisted churches in transitions, long-range planning, partnering in ministry with the community and conflict management. She has also served as the senior pastor of Camphor Memorial United Methodist Church in Philadelphia, which experienced significant new membership growth. During her tenure at Camphor, she led the congregation in reviving a defunct community development corporation and the acquisition of its 501(c) 3 status. Dr. Tatem served as president of the corporation and led this entity in acquiring site control of an abandoned school building that was adjacent to the church; the edifice was renovated into a senior citizens residence and support service facility (a 4.5 million dollar project in collaboration with city, state and federal officials). While she was the pastor of St. Matthews United Methodist Church in Trevoise, PA., the congregation purchased two lots adjacent to the church for future expansion, and membership increased to the point that it was a standing jest that the church could be cited for being overcrowded.

Prior to responding to the call to the ordained ministry, Dr. Tatem was an English/Reading teacher in the Philadelphia School System; she also held the position as Reading Specialist-Early Childhood Development in a program that evolved from a partnership between the former Philadelphia National Bank and the Philadelphia School System.

Dr. Tatem's education includes a Doctor of Ministry, Eastern Baptist (now Palmer) Theological Seminary; Master of Divinity, Union Theological Seminary (N.Y.); Master of Education, Beaver College (now Arcadia University); and Bachelor of Science, Temple University. She has also been trained and certified to administer and interpret the Myers/Briggs Personality Profile.

Dr. Dorothy Watson Tatem serves the Bishop and the Eastern Pennsylvania Conference on the Methodist Hospital Foundation Board, the Metro Ministries Board, and the CORE Team. In the Northeast Jurisdiction, Dr. Tatem has served on the Boundaries Committee, the Multi-Ethnic Center, and the Youth Recruitment for Ordained Ministry. At the level of the general church, she has served on the General Commission of Religion and Race—chair, Personnel

Team and vice chair, Minority Group Self Determination Fund. She presently serves on the General Board of Discipleship, Strengthening the Black Church for the 21st Century, and the Committee on Faith and Order. Her General and Jurisdictional Conference service includes being a delegate and an alternate.

Rev. Dawn E. Taylor-Storm

Church: St. Matthew's United Methodist Church of Valley Forge

Employment/Appointment: White Haven UMC (2001-2008); St. Matthew's UMC of Valley Forge (2008-Present)

Ministry (District, Conference, General Church): Chairperson: Eastern PA Camping Board; Co-Chair: Women in Professional Ministry of the Eastern PA Conference; Member: Board of Ordained Ministry; Conference Relations Committee; General Conference Delegate 1998

Ecumenical Ministries: Upper Main Line Ministerium

Community Services: Partnership Cookman UMC and Mid-Town UMC; Hawes Avenue Feeding Program; Chester County Prison Ministry; Gleaning Ministry

Other Information: Mother of two children – Luke (6) and Rebecca (4)

Statement: This General Conference is highly significant in shaping the future direction of the United Methodist Church. As a young adult clergyperson, I recognize that the future that is being shaped is one that I will inherit. As we move into General Conference, I feel there are three significant issues of concern:

Guaranteed Appointment: I have deep reservations regarding the Study of Ministry's recommendation to end guaranteed appointment. I believe there is an alternative to this study which would enable the Board of Ordained Ministry in each conference to address clergy ineffectiveness, without removing the overarching covenant that is part and parcel of our itinerancy. If elected, I would diligently work with the delegation to craft this alternative plan.

Viability of the United Methodist Church: The call to action study report from our Bishops recognizes the decline in membership across our church and presents us with the steps needed to move forward. This is not a time for fear, but rather a time to engage in dialogue about the evangelistic opportunity of our current culture.

Ethical Engagement with the World: Our call as a church is to give voice to the myriad of ethical issues that we are facing as a society. In the coming decades, the voice of the church cannot be silent. Concerns regarding water rights and air safety will need to be analyzed by the church. The church needs to have a voice in health care legislation regarding bioethical issues such as stem cell research and the storage of embryos. The church's voice must be audible as we continue to battle the AIDS epidemic and new strains of viruses. As we seek to care for the least, the last and the lost, we have an opportunity to partner across

theological and denominational barriers to stand with God's people on the margins.

James B. Todd

Church (Position): District Superintendent, Southwest District

Employment/Appointment: 2006-Present: District Superintendent, Southwest District; 2003-2006: Pastor, Solebury UMC; 1992-2003: Pastor, Lafayette Hill: Messiah UMC; 1986-1992: Pastor, Penns Park UMC; 1982-1986: Associate Pastor, Media: First UMC; 1984: Ordained Elder; 1981: Ordained Deacon

Ministry (District, Conference, General Church):Member, District Youth Committee, South District; Member, District Board of Church Building and Location, Phila. NW District; Member, Committee on Superintendency, Hosier District; Member, Conference Council on Youth Ministries; Secretary, Conference Committee on Town and Country Ministries; Secretary, Conference Committee on Religion and Race; Member, Conference Nominations Committee; Member, Conference Board of Ordained Ministry; Chairperson, Committee on Conference Relations; Member, Probationers Committee of the Board of Ordained Ministry; Member, Conference Council on Finance and Administration (current); Member, Conference Camping Board (current); Member, Camping Strategic Planning group (current); Member, United Methodist Advocacy in Pennsylvania (current); Bishop's Task Force on a Conference Five Year Financial Plan (current)

Ecumenical Ministries:Member, Media Ministerium; Member, North and Southampton Ministerium, Bucks County; Convener, Plymouth-Whitemarsh Ministerium; Secretary, Delaware Valley Council of Churches; LUMINA Board of Directors (current); Boehm's Chapel Society Board (current)

Other Information: Completed the four week certification program for the National Institute in Church Finance and Administration, Candler School of Theology, 1989-90; Completed all three phases of Intentional Interim Ministry training offered by the Intentional Growth Center, Lake Junaluska, NC; certified as a Transitional Interim Ministry Specialist, March 2011.

Statement:I believe in the future of the United Methodist Church! I see many signs of hope in our denomination, especially in those areas where we are focusing on disciple making. As we seek to call persons to new life in Jesus Christ, we must also change to meet the changing needs of the world. As a denomination, we have not done a good job at reaching young adults, and statistics continually show that our average age in the church is much higher than the average age of those who live around us. From leadership structures to worship to mission, we must not only say that we want young adult involvement, we must show it in our actions as we accommodate and embrace new ways of doing things. In a time of static or declining resources, it is important that we prioritize our resources and put them toward areas where we seen new life and growth. General Conference must both celebrate our diversity as well as find ways to lift up the essential unity that historically has been a tremendous strength of our denomination, and I am committed to doing both.

Sharon L. Vandegrift

Church: Charge Conference : Media: First UMC

Employment/Appointment: Life and Leadership Coach (Endorsed Extension Ministry)
Bridge-the-Gap Life Coaching Services, LLC, Media, PA

Ministry (District, Conference, General Church):

Asbury Ministry at Drexel University, Philadelphia, PA - Vice President and Member of the Board of Directors; General Board of Higher Education and Ministry, Nashville, TN - Workshop Leader: Northeast Jurisdictional Clergywomen's Consultation, Coach: Nurturing Innovative Clergy Leadership Program, Guest Speaker: Lead Women Pastor's and Future Leadership Consultation, Coach: Hispanic /Latinas Women Pastor's Convocation, Panelist: United Methodist Continuing Education Annual Conference; Methodist Endorsement Agency – Interviewer, Coach: Transition Workshop

Past Involvements in Eastern PA Conference: Chair of Continuing Education Committee, EPA Conference Board of Ordained Ministry; EPA Conference Human Resources Committee; Chair, SE District Committee on Building and Church Location

Appointments Served: Evansburg / Campus Minister: Swarthmore College / Campus Minister & Wesley Foundation Director: Asbury Ministry at Drexel University / Philadelphia: Roxborough, First / Elam / Springfield: Covenant

Ecumenical Ministries: The Christian Association at the University of Pennsylvania: Pastoral Supervisor

Community Services: One to One Women Coaching Women (*an organization that provides free coaching for women in challenging economic situations*)-Delaware County Hospitality Coalition

Awards/Publications: Response Magazine; 'Prayer for Life Balance', published January 2011; Response Magazine: 'Clearing the Path', published April 2011

Other Information: Credentialed as a 'Professional Certified Coach' by the International Coach Federation

Statement: My passion for a dynamic and vital United Methodist Church that impacts the world; my expertise in leadership development; and my experience as a campus minister, local church pastor and life and leadership coach for clergy make me exceptionally well qualified to serve as a 2012 General Conference Delegate.

It is essential for our family of faith to engage the variety of issues before us with seriousness and integrity as we strive toward unified positions that reflect the Gospel call. Delegates will need to be well informed to faithfully address the great nuance and complexity inherent in our dialogue. Open hearts and minds that allow for the movement of the Spirit in the midst of the conversation will be foundational in our ability to move forward as a global church. I am eager to

commit the time, energy and prayerful spirit that will be necessary for all 2012 General Conference delegates.

In an effort to spur church revitalization and form leaders for the future, groups formed by General Conference 2008 have recently released two studies: "Leaders for Ministry Study Proposal" and "Call to Action". Both are comprehensive documents filled with thoughtful, creative and prayerful suggestions for moving the church forward. However, I do believe a number of the recommendations; particularly those related to clergy effectiveness and guaranteed appointment have social justice ramifications that will need to be considered. Additionally, I laud the moral and theological integrity displayed by the group of retired United Methodist Bishops who presented the 'Statement of Counsel to the Church – 2011' encouraging the full inclusion of gay, lesbian and transgender persons in the ministry of the church. It is essential for us to engage in frank and candid discussion around this issue.

Robert J. Wilt, Jr.

Church: Northwest District Superintendent

Employment/Appointment:

Pomeroy UMC, 1975-1981

Reading: The Memorial Church of the Holy Cross (Associate), 1981-1985

West Willow UMC, 1985-1991

Bethlehem: Fritz Memorial, 1991-2003

Valley Forge: St. Matthew's, 2003-2008

Northwest District Superintendent, 2008-

Newly appointed to Lima UMC, effective July 1, 2011

Ministry (District, Conference, General Church):

Committee on Mission Education and Cultivation

Committee on Volunteers in Mission – 1st chairperson, when a Conference Committee

Conference Board of Global Ministries – chairperson

Harkness-Allentown District Committee on District Superintendency – chairperson

Conference Board of Ordained Ministry – since 2002

Chair of Continuing Education

Chair of Committee on Conference Relations

Volunteer in Mission Projects

Bo Pasto, Puerto Rico; Window Rock, Arizona; Kathmandu, Nepal; McCurdy School, New Mexico;

Akron, Ohio

Will be leading a VIM team to Nepal in 2012

Camping Program

Program Director at Gretna Glen

Was part of original team that designed the Confirmation Camp

Director of The Call to Ministry Retreat for Middle and High School youth

Ecumenical Ministries:

Community Ministeriums

Community Services:

Most recent:

In Bethlehem: New Bethany Ministries, Southside Ministries, Southeast Neighborhood Center and an effort to establish a family center in South Bethlehem

In Valley Forge: ONAT – One Night At A Time, which is a church based Montgomery County program to provide shelter for the homeless

Awards/Publications:

Graduated with honors from the former Eastern Baptist Theological Seminary (now Palmer), and received the Middler Academic Scholarship, awarded by the President upon recommendation of the faculty.

Other Information:

A graduate of:

Phoenixville Area High School, 1971

Lebanon Valley College, 1975

Eastern Baptist Theological Seminary, 1978

Statement:

I am forever grateful to the faithful disciples of Jesus Christ within the Eastern Pennsylvania Conference of the United Methodist Church. The faithful of this Conference nurtured me into faith in Christ, prepared me to hear God's call, affirmed and supported me in that call, and then gave me opportunity to live out that call. Thus far, I've enjoyed 36 years of ministry within a variety of missional settings; and in each I've tried to be as faithful as the disciples preceding me.

Serving on the Board of Ordained Ministry for 9 years, as well as serving most recently as a District Superintendent, has increased my understanding of our *United Methodist Book of Discipline*, especially paragraphs related to the ordained and licensed clergy. Representing the Eastern Pennsylvania Conference in General Church discussions and decisions on issues such as: clarifying the order of ministry, "the guaranteed appointment", the language of the Social Principles regarding human sexuality, the rights and privileges extended to the licensed local pastor, would be an awesome privilege. And like the previous 36 years, I will strive to serve Christ and represent the Conference faithfully and prayerfully. I

am proud of our unique witness, and would be honored to take it to General Conference.

Name: Rev. Susan L. Worrell

Ordained UM Deacon in Full Connection

Endorsed Mental Health & Substance Abuse Chaplain by the United Methodist
Endorsing
Agency

Licensed Professional Counselor/Certified Addiction Counselor by the State of
Pennsylvania

Primary Appointment: Hope Christian Counseling & Retreat Ministries, Founder and
Director

Secondary Appointment: United Methodist Church of the Open Door, Kennett Square,
PA

Ministry (District, Conference, General Church):

UM Deacon Liaison with Drew Theological School and GBHEM

Chair of the Order of Deacon, EPAUMC

Board of Ordained Ministry

Marriage Separation and Divorce Committee

Deacon- Pastor Work Team

H.U.B. of Hope HIV/AIDS Ministry Advisory Board

Inclusive Social Ministry for Solidarity (I.S.M.S.)

Ecumenical Ministries:

Pennsylvanians Concerned About Alcohol Problems – EPAUMC Representative

Christ Centered Recovery Ministry, Kennett Square, PA

Community Services:

Helping Hands Community Advocacy Network, Kennett Square, PA

Other Information:

Susan is married to Jere Worrell, retired from a banking career, and lives in Kennett
Square. She is a mother of two married adult children and six grandchildren.
Susan enjoys gardening, reading, and spending quality time with her family.

Statement:

I have been tremendously blessed by the loving and sometimes challenging involvements with members of my community and congregation – in counseling relationships; in teaching and preaching; in leading corporate worship; in helping the laity discover, develop and utilize their gifts for ministry; in antiracism, peace and justice work within our diverse congregation and community; in community ministry with the disenfranchised and poor; in championing environmental stewardship as a spiritual discipline; and in being grounded in authentic community and fellowship with this Body of Christ. I have a passion for the ministry of the deacon in the UMC. God has gifted me with a vision of the fullness and richness of the shared ministry of the elder/pastor, deacon, and laity working together to fulfill the call to the transformative work the Lord has placed on the collective life as the Body of Christ in their local community. Primary to this vision is the mindset of team ministry and vital, supportive, and accountable Christian community. This vision brings the church back to a Christian community where relationships are authentic and open, barriers are removed, leadership is shared, and gifts and graces for ministry are recognized, encouraged, and released. I will bring my experience, passion and vision for a vital, inclusive, justice minded, and Spirit led church to General and/or Jurisdictional Conference if I am elected.

Name: Bronwyn E. Yocum

Church: Northeast District

Employment/Appointment:

2008 – current: Superintendent, Northeast District

2000 – 2008: Sr. Pastor, First UMC of Phoenixville

1997-2000: Associate Pastor, Hopewell UMC

1991-1997: Lay Staff Member, Berwyn UMC

Former HR and Communications Director, CBS, Inc.

Ministry (District, Conference, General Church):

Currently serving as superintendent of the Northeast District, and represent the cabinet on the Equitable Compensation Commission, Human Resources Committee, and the Board of Laity. Prior to serving as DS, served on the Board of Ordained Ministry and as a member of the Pastoral Care and the Marital Separation and Divorce Committees and as Chair of the Order of Elders. Also served on the board of the Conference Loan Fund, on the Strategic Review Team, and as co-

chair of the Leadership Resource Team and member of CTT at its inception.
Served on several district committees.

Ecumenical Ministries:

I have been actively involved in ecumenical clergy groups and interfaith efforts throughout my pastorates. Currently working with representatives of six denominations to develop and strengthen Latino ministries in the Lehigh Valley, and participate in activities of the Lehigh County Council of Churches. Speaker and retreat leader for women's ministry groups from a variety of denominations. Taught Christian clowning and storytelling at ecumenical conferences.

Community Services:

As local church pastor, served as member Phoenixville Hospital Institutional Review Board, President of Episcopal Place – a \$7 million HUD subsidized senior housing in Upland, VP of board of two additional HUD facilities in Phoenixville, former volunteer and board member of Freedom Valley Girl Scout Council, Daemion House Community Center and board of United Way of Southeastern Pa.

Other Information:

Former adjunct faculty, Eastern Baptist Theological Seminary (now Palmer)

Statement:

This General Conference will consider legislation critical to the future direction of our denomination. As a DS I have tried to balance accountability with encouragement, the call for more youthful ministry with the honoring of our elders, the demand for effectiveness with the prophetic function of the open itineracy and God's love for all with the call to holy living. I believe these critical tensions are essential to the health of our denomination. We cannot legislate vitality for our churches, but we can provide systems that seek to maintain these polarities in healthy tension across the denomination. To do that we must acknowledge and faithfully wrestle with the issues confronting our churches in a spirit that seeks God's will for the church and witnesses to the love of God in Christ even in disagreement. As a second career pastor and former HR director, I believe I bring a unique perspective combining viewpoints from both sides of the altar rail to these deliberations. I would be honored to serve as a delegate from the EPA to General Conference.