

# *2018 Ordination*

Eastern Pennsylvania Annual Conference--June 14-16, 2018



232nd Session of the Eastern Pennsylvania Annual Conference  
Greater Philadelphia Expo Center, 100 Station Avenue, Oaks, PA 19456



## Service of Commissioning and Ordination

Greater Philadelphia Expo Center at Oaks  
Oaks, Pennsylvania

Friday, June 15, 2018  
7:00 PM

### Resident Bishop of the Eastern Pennsylvania Conference

Bishop Peggy A. Johnson

### Participating Bishop

Bishop Cynthia Moore-Koikoi

#### District Superintendents

East District  
North District  
South District  
West District

Rev. Tracy Bass  
Rev. Dr. Irving Cotto  
Rev. Dawn Taylor-Storm  
Rev. Bumkoo Chung

#### Conference Lay Leader

Mr. David Koch

#### Chairpersons of District Committees

East District  
North District  
South District  
  
West District

Rev. Thomas Brooks  
Rev. Dr. Thomas S. Robinson, III  
Rev. Monica Beth Guepet  
Rev. Sherry L. Lantz  
Rev. Michael S. Remel  
Rev. Timothy J. Smith

#### Officers of the Board of Ordained Ministry

Co-Chairs

Rev. Johnson E. Dodla  
Rev. Gary David Knerr

Vice Chair

Mr. Mertice Shane

Secretary

Ms. Barbara Drake

Treasurer

Mr. Clifton Hubbard

Registrar

Rev. Amy C. Smith

Chair, Order of Elders

Rev. Tawny L. Bernhardt

Chair, Order of Deacons

Rev. Evelyn Kent Clark

Chairs, Fellowship of Local Pastors / Associate Members

Rev. Tiffany Manning

Rev. Kevin Andrew Babcock

Chair, Residency in Ministry

Rev. Edward Cameron

Chair, Mentor Training

Rev. Andrew Krpata

*The Board of Ordained Ministry welcomes you to this Service of Commissioning and Ordination. This worship service is a time of celebration and reverence. We ask that you honor those who are commissioned and ordained not with your applause but with your prayer. **Please silence your phones.***

## GATHERING

### PRELUDE

#### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Our God is a God who calls, a God who inspires,

**Many: a God who equips, a God who sends.**

One: Our God sends prophets

**Many: to stand up for justice and speak truth to power.**

One: Our God sends preachers

**Many: to proclaim to all the good news of the gospel.**

One: Our God sends leaders

**Many: to guide God's people and affect change in God's world.**

One: Our God sends servants

**Many: to respond to pressing needs with compassion and love.**

One: Our God sends the Spirit

**Many: to inspire, strengthen, and empower them all!**

One: Our God is a God who sends!

**Many: Let us be the servants whom God sends into all the world!**

#### \*PROCESSIONAL HYMNS

#### “CROWN HIM WITH MANY CROWNS”

1. Crown him with many crowns, the Lamb upon the throne.  
Hark! how the heavenly anthem drowns all music but its own.  
Awake, my soul, and sing of him who died for thee,  
and hail him as thy matchless King through all eternity.
2. Crown him the Lord of life, who triumphed o'er the grave,  
and rose victorious in the strife for those he came to save.  
His glories now we sing, who died, and rose on high,  
who died, eternal life to bring, and lives that death may die.
3. Crown him the Lord of peace, whose power a scepter sways  
from pole to pole, that wars may cease, and all be prayer and praise.  
His reign shall know no end, and round his pierced feet  
fair flowers of paradise extend their fragrance ever sweet.
4. Crown him the Lord of love; behold his hands and side,  
those wounds, yet visible above, in beauty glorified.  
All hail, Redeemer, hail! For thou hast died for me;  
thy praise and glory shall not fail throughout eternity.

#### “PRAISE TO THE LORD, THE ALMIGHTY”

1. Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!  
O my soul, praise him, for he is thy health and salvation!  
All ye who hear, now to his temple draw near;  
join me in glad adoration!

2. Praise to the Lord, who doth prosper thy work and defend thee;  
surely God's goodness and mercy here daily attend thee.  
Ponder anew what the Almighty can do,  
who with God's love doth befriend thee.
3. Praise to the Lord, who doth nourish thy life and restore thee,  
fitting thee well for the tasks that are ever before thee.  
Then to thy need God as a mother doth speed,  
spreading the wings of grace o'er thee.
4. Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore him!  
All that hath life and breath, come now with praises before him!  
Let the "amen" sound from God's people again;  
gladly forever adore him.

"TO GOD BE THE GLORY"

1. To God be the glory, great things he hath done!  
So loved he the world that he gave us his Son,  
who yielded his life an atonement for sin,  
and opened the life-gate that all may go in.

*Refrain:*

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the earth hear his voice!  
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the people rejoice!  
O come to the Father through Jesus the Son,  
and give him the glory, great things he hath done!

2. O perfect redemption, the purchase of blood,  
to every believer the promise of God;  
the vilest offender who truly believes,  
that moment from Jesus a pardon receives.  
(Refrain)
3. Great things he hath taught us, great things he hath done,  
and great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son;  
but purer, and higher, and greater will be  
our wonder, our transport, when Jesus we see.  
(Refrain)

\*GREETING AND PRAYER

*Bishop:* The grace of Jesus Christ be with you all.

**People:** **And also with you.**

*Bishop:* We come together to praise God,  
to hear the Holy Word,  
and to seek for ourselves and others  
the power, presence, and direction of the Holy Spirit.

Let us pray.

**People:**           **Eternal God, by Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit**  
                          **you gave to your apostles many excellent gifts**  
**Give your grace**  
                          **to all servants of your church,**  
                          **that we may with diligence and faithfulness**  
                          **fulfill our various ministries.**  
**Grant that we your people may follow where you lead,**  
                          **perfect our ministries,**  
                          **and live in joyful obedience to your will,**  
**through Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.**

**\*AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM**

*Bishop:*           Ministry is the work of God,  
                          done by the people of God.  
                          In the earliest days of Christ's Church,  
                          God's people were commissioned to make disciples,  
                          to baptize, to serve, to teach.  
Through baptism  
                          all Christians are made part of the priesthood of all believers,  
                          the church, Christ's body, made visible in the world.  
We all share in Christ's ministry of love and service  
for the redemption of the human family and the whole of creation.

*The bishop presents the symbol of water, recalling our common baptism.*

Therefore, in celebration of our common baptism  
and our common ministry,  
I call upon all God's people gathered here:

Remember you are baptized, and be thankful!

**People:**           **We reaffirm our baptism**  
                          **and our common call to ministry.**  
**Thanks be to God!**

**\*BAPTISMAL HYMN – "SPIRIT SONG"**

1.     O let the Son of God enfold you  
       with his Spirit and his love.  
       Let him fill your heart and satisfy your soul.  
       O let him have the things that hold you,  
       and his Spirit like a dove  
       will descend upon your life and make you whole.

*Refrain:*  
Jesus, O Jesus,  
come and fill your lambs.  
Jesus, O Jesus,  
come and fill your lambs.

2. O come and sign this song with gladness  
as your hearts are filled with joy.  
Lift your hands in sweet surrender to his name.  
O give him all your tears and sadness;  
give him all your years of pain,  
and you'll enter into life in Jesus' name.

PRESENTATION & EXAMINATION OF PERSONS  
TO BE COMMISSIONED AS MISSIONARIES

*The congregation may be seated.*

*The bishops and the candidates for commissioning as missionaries remain standing.*

*Bishop:* Who presents these candidates to be commissioned as missionaries?

*Conference Mission Coordinator:*

We present Brenda Nguwa of the East Zimbabwe Annual Conference  
and Rebecca Parsons of the Eastern Pennsylvania Annual Conference  
for commissioning as missionaries  
through the General Board of Global Ministries.

We present them with our prayers and support.

*Bishop:* My brothers and sisters in Christ,  
you have been baptized  
and called into common ministry with all Christians.  
You have been called to set apart ministry  
as commissioned missionaries.  
The Church confirms your calling.

We rejoice that you have chosen  
to devote this time in your lives to Christian mission.  
The call of God is always profound,  
and our response can be no less extraordinary.  
In the varied ministries in which the Holy Spirit will lead you,  
you will testify to the infinite love of God in Christ Jesus.

Such a vocation confers a great privilege;  
it also lays upon you a solemn responsibility.  
What you have pledged alone with God  
in consecrating your lives to this service,  
we ask you to repeat publicly.

Do you sincerely believe  
that you have been led by the Spirit of God  
to engage in this work and to assume its responsibilities?

*Candidates: I do so believe.*

*Bishop:* Will you be diligent in prayer,  
in the reading of the Holy Scriptures,  
and in such studies as will increase your skills and abilities  
for this life in mission?

*Candidates: I will endeavor so to do.*

*Bishop:* Will you earnestly seek to carry forward your ministry  
in sincerity and in love,  
cooperating willingly with your co-workers,  
under the direction of the church?

*Candidates: I will, the Lord being my helper.*

*Bishop:* May God,  
who has given you the will to do these things,  
give you grace to perform them,  
that the work begun in you may be brought to perfection.

**People: Amen.**

*The candidates for commissioning as missionaries may be seated.*

PRESENTATION & EXAMINATION OF PERSONS  
TO BE ORDAINED OR COMMISSIONED

*The candidates for commissioning and ordination rise.*

*Bishop:* Who presents these candidates to be ordained or commissioned?

*Conference Lay Leader:*

We have recommended them in our local congregations.  
We present them with our prayers and support.

*Chairperson of the Board of Ordained Ministry:*

We have examined these candidates  
according to the standards of our Discipline  
and this annual conference of The United Methodist Church.  
We present them with our prayers and support.

*Chairperson of the Order of Elders:*

We present Mercedes O'Connor Case, Deanna Marie Geiter,  
Dorcas Kumba Kamanda, Bradley Matthew Leight,  
and Walter Jerome Unterberger  
for ordination as elders.  
We present them with our prayers and support.

*Chairperson of the Order of Deacons:*

We present Diana A. Esposito  
for ordination as a deacon.  
We present her with our prayers and support.

*Chairperson of the Board of Ordained Ministry:*

We present Rodney A. Brailsford, Towanda N.T. Connelly,

Greg Impink, Shayla L. Johnson, Laurie Jean Pfahler,  
Tamie Scalise, and Lori Wagner  
for commissioning as provisional members

preparing for ordained ministry as elders.

We present Jane Elizabeth Rupert Dutton and Shellie Sterner  
for commissioning as provisional members

preparing for ordained ministry as deacons.

We present them with our prayers and support.

*Bishop:*

These persons are, by God's grace,  
to be ordained or commissioned,  
to be set apart for ministry in Christ's holy Church.

Those authorized by the Church to inquire about them  
have discerned that they are persons  
of sound learning and of Christian character,  
possess the necessary signs of God's grace,  
and have demonstrated a profound commitment to serve Jesus Christ.  
Therefore, they believe them to be duly called to serve God.

We ask you, people of God,  
to declare your assent  
to the ordination and commissioning of these persons.

Do you trust that they are worthy, by God's grace,  
to be ordained and commissioned?

**People: We do! Thanks be to God!**

*Bishop:* Will you uphold them in their ministry?

**People: We will, with the help of God!**

*Bishop:* My sisters and brothers in Christ,  
you have been baptized  
and called into common ministry with all Christians.  
You have been called  
to an ordained or commissioned status in set apart ministry.  
The Church confirms your calling.

As ordained or commissioned ministers,  
you are to be coworkers with all the people of God:  
with laity, bishops, elders, deacons, local pastors,  
provisional members, diaconal ministers,  
deaconesses, home missionaries, supply pastors,  
and with all who serve God in the Church.

Remember you are called  
to serve rather than to be served,  
to proclaim the faith of the church and no other,  
to look after the concerns of God above all.

So that we may know you believe yourselves  
to be called by God  
and to profess the Christian faith,

we ask you:

Do you believe that God has called you  
to the life and work of ordained ministry?

*Candidates:* **I do so believe.**

*Bishop:* Do you believe in the Triune God,  
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,  
and confess Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior?

*Candidates:* **I do so believe and confess.**

*Bishop:* Are you persuaded  
that the scriptures of the Old and New Testaments  
contain all things necessary for salvation  
through faith in Jesus Christ  
and are the unique and authoritative standard  
for the church's faith and life?

*Candidates:* **I am so persuaded, by God's grace.**

*Bishop:* Will you be faithful in prayer,  
in the study of the holy scriptures,  
and with the help of the Holy Spirit  
continually rekindle the gift of God that is in you?

*Candidates:* **I will, with the help of God.**

*Bishop:* Will you do your best to pattern your life  
in accordance with the teachings of Christ?

*Candidates:* **I will, with the help of God.**

*Bishop:* Will you, in the exercise of your ministry,  
lead the people of God  
to faith in Jesus Christ,  
to participate in the life and work of the community,  
and to seek peace, justice, and freedom for all people?

*Candidates:* **I will, with the help of God.**

*Bishop:* Will you be loyal to The United Methodist Church,  
accepting and upholding its order, liturgy, doctrine, and discipline,  
defending it against all doctrines contrary to holy scripture;  
and committing yourself to be accountable with those serving with you,  
and to the bishop and those who are appointed to supervise your ministry?

*Candidates:* **I will, with the help of God.**

*Bishop:* Will you, for the sake of the church's life and mission,  
covenant to participate in the life of the order  
into which you are ordained or commissioned?  
Will you give yourself to God through the order



and, amid the cares that claim us, hold in mind eternity.  
With the Spirit's gifts empower us for the work of ministry.

## OFFERING

## OFFERTORY – PHILADELPHIA UNITED METHODIST MASS CHOIR

## PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Good and gracious God, we give thanks for your enduring presence in our lives. You have claimed us and called us, equipped us and empowered us. In grateful response to your gracious work in each of our lives, we offer you these gifts. Bless and use them to call, equip, and send forth a new generation of faithful and committed leaders, that their ministries may enliven your church and transform your world. Amen.

## THE SERVICE OF COMMISSIONING AND ORDINATION

### THE RECOGNITION OF ORDERS

#### **JOONG HYUCK KIM**

Current Appointment: Bethlehem Korean UMC

*The candidate for recognition of orders rises and faces the bishop.*

*Bishop:*           After due examination  
                          of your call and ministry in another part of Christ's holy church,  
                          we now welcome you to this communion.  
                          You have given assurance of your faith and Christian experience.  
                          You have renewed the vows of your ordination  
                          and embraced our own,  
                          committing yourself to accept and uphold faithfully  
                          the doctrine, liturgy, and discipline of The United Methodist Church.

                          We rejoice that you have been called to serve among us,  
                          and pray that God may guide your ministry.

*The candidate comes forward and is greeted by the bishop.*

*Bishop:*           *Name*, we now recognize you as an elder in full connection  
                          in The United Methodist Church.

*The candidate receives a certificate of full membership.*

### THE COMMISSIONING OF MISSIONARIES

#### **BRENDA NGUWA REBECCA PARSONS**

*The candidates for commissioning as missionaries rise and face the bishop.*

*Bishop:* Missionaries witness and serve  
in dramatically different locales and cultures  
and engage in a range of professions and activities.  
They are a tangible connection between the church and mission.

Those who are commissioned are often called  
to serve outside their country of origin,  
offering themselves as pastors, teachers, doctors, nurses,  
social workers, church planters, evangelists,  
and in a variety of other ways  
through various forms  
of denominational or ecumenical ministries.

Do you believe that God has called you  
to the life and work of a missionary?

*Candidates:* **I do so believe.**

*Bishop:* Let us pray:  
Almighty God, source of all mercies,  
endow these servants with your Holy Spirit,  
enrich them with your grace,  
and strengthen them for the tasks which lie ahead;  
that in all their works begun, continued, and ended in you,  
they may glorify your holy name,  
and advance the coming of your Kingdom,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**People:** **Amen.**

*The bishop lays both hands on the head of each commissioned missionary, saying:*

*Bishop:* *Name*, I commission you  
to take the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ into all the world,  
in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

*The bishop vests the commissioned missionary with the anchor cross.*

*After all have been commissioned and vested, the bishop continues:*

*Bishop:* Church, I commend to you these persons  
whom we have commissioned on this day  
into a lifetime of Christ-like service  
under the authority of The United Methodist Church.  
In this holy moment, we too are called  
to a renewed consecration of our lives to Christ.  
As these our missionaries go forth upon their ministries,  
let us assure them of our support by word, gift, and deed.

**People:** We rejoice to recognize you  
as missionaries of The United Methodist Church.  
We will sustain you with our prayers,  
support your mission service,  
and together strive to minister to the needs of all of creation.

*Bishop:* To the church gathered here and around the world,  
I present our new missionary/missionaries,  
commissioned to service on behalf of the United Methodist Church.  
Thanks be to God.

**People:** Amen.

HYMN – “THIS LITTLE LIGHT OF MINE”

1. This little light of mine, I’m gonna let it shine,  
this little light of mine, I’m gonna let it shine;  
this little light of mine, I’m gonna let it shine,  
let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

THE COMMISSIONING OF PROVISIONAL MEMBERS

*To Be Commissioned to Perform the Duties of the Ministry of the Elder*

**RODNEY A. BRAILSFORD**

Home Church: Lafayette Hill: Messiah UMC  
College: Temple University, Bachelor of Arts in Spanish, 2000  
Seminary: Eastern Baptist Theological Seminary, Master of Theological Studies, 2004,  
Lutheran Theological Seminary, Master of Sacred Theology, 2013  
Churches Served: Norristown: Haws Avenue UMC

**TOWANDA N.T. CONNELLY**

Spouse: Lawton Connelly Jr.  
Home Church: Chester: St. Daniel’s UMC  
College: Eastern University, Bachelor of Social Work, 1995  
Seminary: Palmer Theological Seminary, Master of Divinity, 2008  
Graduate School: Widener University, Master of Social Work, 2007  
Churches Served: Philadelphia: Emmanuel UMC  
Philadelphia: New Vision UMC, Chester: St. Daniel’s UMC

**GREG IMPINK**

Spouse: Rachelle Impink  
Home Church: Charter Oak UMC (Western PA Conference)  
Lancaster: Hempfield UMC  
College: Penn State University, Bachelor of Science  
in Industrial and Manufacturing Engineering, 2010  
Seminary: Palmer Theological Seminary, Master of Divinity, 2018  
Churches Served: Gap: Limeville UMC

**SHAYLA L. JOHNSON**

Children: Saniyah L. Johnson-Veasey  
Home Church: Philadelphia: Eastwick UMC  
College: Pace University, Bachelor of Arts in Business Management / Business Law, 2002  
Seminary: Palmer Theological Seminary, Master of Theological Studies, 2014  
Palmer Theological Seminary, Master of Divinity, 2018  
Graduate School: Walden University, Master of Business Administration, 2007  
Churches Served: Philadelphia: Mother African Zoar UMC

**LAURIE JEAN PFAHLER**

Home Church: Royersford UMC  
College: Kean College of New Jersey, Bachelor of Arts in Biology, 1985  
East Stroudsburg University, Bachelor of Science in Recreation & Leisure Services Mgt., 1990  
Seminary: Drew Theological School, Master of Divinity, 2015  
Churches Served: Pottstown: First UMC, Pottstown: Salem UMC, Langhorne UMC

**TAMIE SCALISE**

Spouse: Frank Scalise  
Children: Sam Scalise, Juliana Scalise  
Home Church: Mohnton: Calvary UMC  
College: Millersville University, Bachelor of Science in Early Childhood/Elem. Education, 1993  
Seminary: Lancaster Theological Seminary, Master of Divinity, 2017  
Graduate School: West Chester University, Master of Arts in Elementary Education, 1998  
Churches Served: Germantown: First UMC

**LORI WAGNER**

College: Lebanon Valley College, Bachelor of Arts in Religion and German, 1984  
Seminary: Drew Theological School, Master of Divinity, 2011  
Churches Served: Wallingford: Old Union UMC, Prospect Park: Prospect UMC  
Springtown: Salem UMC

*To Be Commissioned to Perform the Duties of the Ministry of the Deacon*

**JANE ELIZABETH RUPERT DUTTON**

Spouse: Allan Abernethy Dutton  
Children: Jenna E. Dutton, Peter W. Dutton  
Home Church: Lancaster: Grandview UMC  
College: Lebanon Valley College, Bachelor of Science in Social Services, 1985  
Seminary: Lancaster Theological Seminary, Master of Divinity, 2018  
Graduate School: Temple University, Master of Social Work, 1991

**SHELLIE STERNER**

Spouse: Jeffrey L. Sterner  
Children: Kenneth J. Sterner, Erin Sterner Viozzi  
Home Church: Lebanon: Church of the Good Shepherd

College: Widener University, Bachelor of Science in Nursing, 1984  
Seminary: Evangelical Theological Seminary, Master of Divinity, 2006  
Churches Served: Lebanon: Good Shepherd Church, Lebanon: Avon Zion UMC  
Cornwall: Cornwall UMC, Lebanon: Good Shepherd Church (secondary appointment),  
Lebanon Valley College (primary appointment)

*The candidates for commissioning rise and face the congregation.*

*Bishop:* By affirming the covenant of baptism,  
all members of Christ's holy church pledge  
to serve as Christ's representatives in the world.

Christ gave all of us this command:  
"Ask the Lord of the harvest to send laborers into his harvest."  
We have asked, and the Lord has answered.  
These sisters and brothers know our Savior's concern for God's people,  
see the plentiful harvest,  
and are ready to respond generously to the Lord  
in the words of the prophet Isaiah: "Here I am, send me."

Urged on by the love of Christ and strengthened by the Holy Spirit,  
they now come to declare in public  
their desire to live out the covenant made at their baptism  
by binding themselves to the service of God  
under the supervision of the bishop  
and the guidance of colleagues in full connection  
and by being appointed to share as servant leaders  
in the body of Christ.

Today we commission them to service  
as they continue to prepare for ordained ministry among us.

*The candidates kneel, facing the bishop.*

*The bishop extends arms over all of the candidates, praying:*

God of the apostles and prophets, of the martyrs and teachers,  
you raise up men and women to apostolic leaders in your church.  
By your Holy Spirit,  
help these, your servants,  
to understand and live the mystery of your love with boldness and joy.  
Deepen their sense of purpose  
as they exercise commissioned ministry.  
Empower them, and those who will walk with them to guide their ministry,  
together with all of your people,  
to heal the sick,  
love the outcast,  
resist evil,  
preach the Word,  
and give themselves freely for your name's sake.

*As the bishop lays hands upon the shoulders of each **commissioning** candidate, we invite the gathered body,*

*including family and friends, to remain seated as you offer silent prayer for that candidate. Later in the service, as the bishop lays hands upon the head of each **ordination** candidate, we invite the gathered body to offer silent prayer for the candidate, and invite family members and friends to stand in silent prayer.*

*The bishop, standing in front of and laying both hands upon the shoulders of each candidate, prays:*

Pour out your Holy Spirit upon *Name*.  
Send *her/him* now to proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ,  
to announce the reign of God,  
and to equip the church for ministry,  
in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**People:**        **Amen.**

HYMN – “THIS LITTLE LIGHT OF MINE”

2.        Everywhere I go, I’m gonna let it shine,  
          everywhere I go, I’m gonna let it shine;  
          everywhere I go, I’m gonna let it shine,  
          let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

## ORDINATION

*In The United Methodist Church, those who are called and ordained to set-apart ministry find covenantal relationship in one of two distinct and equally vital clergy orders: the Order of Deacons and the Order of Elders.*

### THE ORDINATION OF ELDERS

#### **MERCEDES O’CONNOR CASE**

Spouse: Timothy Case

Children: Jonathan Case

Home Church: West Chester UMC

College: Rochester Institute of Technology, Bachelor of Technology, 1981

Seminary: Course of Study, Claremont School of Theology, 2006

Advanced Course of Study, Lancaster Theological Seminary, 2012

Graduate School: Eastern University, MBA, 1987

Churches Served: Parkesburg UMC, New London UMC, Avondale UMC,

Extension Ministry – Spiritual Care Coordinator at Aseracare Hospice

Sponsors: Rev. Scott Freidgen-Veitch, Rev. Monica Guepet

#### **DEANNA MARIE GEITER**

Spouse: Robert W. Geiter

Home Church: Strasburg: Wesley UMC

College: Lancaster Bible College, Bachelor of Science in Bible, 2010

Seminary: Lancaster Theological Seminary, Master of Divinity, 2013

Churches Served: Lebanon: St. Luke’s UMC, Lickdale: Trinity UMC

Sponsors: Rev. Kay Painter, Rev. Tim Duchesne

**DORCAS KUMBA KAMANDA**

Spouse: Daniel S.M. Kamanda

Children: Hopenet Antione and Ali Kamanda

Home Church: Extension Ministry, Sierra Leone United Methodist Conference,  
Sierra Leone, West Africa

College: University of Northern Colorado, Bachelor of Science in Nursing, 1974

Seminary: Lancaster Theological Seminary, Master of Divinity, 2014

Graduate School: School for International Training, Master of Arts in Administration, 1989  
East Carolina University, Master of Arts in Nurse Midwifery, 1998

Churches Served: Newtown UMC

Sponsors: Rev. Roseanne Goldberg-Taylor, Rev. Steven Rodgers

**BRADLEY MATTHEW LEIGHT**

Spouse: Jennifer Leight

Children: Gavin Leight, Darcy Leight

Home Church: Red Lion: St. Paul's Chapel UMC (Susquehanna Conference),  
Quakertown UMC

College: Moravian College, Bachelor of Science in Biology, 1996

Seminary: Palmer Theological Seminary, Master of Divinity, 2015

Churches Served: Jim Thorpe: Grace-St. Paul's UMC

Sponsors: Rev. James D. Anderman, Rev. William Thompson

**WALTER JEROME UNTERBERGER**

Spouse: Karen Sue Unterberger

Home Church: Bensalem: Cornwells UMC

College: Eastern College, Bachelor of Arts in Organizational Management, 1992

Seminary: Asbury Theological Seminary, Master of Divinity, 2015

Churches Served: Dresher: Jarrettown UMC, Conestoga: Colemanville UMC

Sponsors: Rev. Dr. Robert W. Kirby, III; Rev. Joseph DiPaolo

*The candidates for ordination as elders rise and face the bishop.*

*Bishop:* An elder is called  
to share in the ministry of Christ  
and of the whole church:  
to preach and teach the Word of God

*An elder lifts a Bible.*

and to faithfully administer the sacraments  
of Holy Baptism and Holy Communion;

*An elder lifts a chalice and paten.*

to lead the people of God in worship and prayer;  
to lead persons to faith in Jesus Christ;  
to exercise pastoral supervision,  
to order the life of the congregation and the connection,  
to counsel the troubled,  
and declare the forgiveness of sin;  
to lead the people of God  
in obedience to Christ's mission in the world;

to seek justice, peace, and freedom for all people;  
and to take a responsible place in the government of the Church  
and in service in and to the community.

This is the rule of life and work of an elder.

Do you believe that God has called you  
to the life and work of an elder?

*Candidates:* **I do so believe.**

*Bishop:* As these persons are ordained by God and the church  
for the ministry of elders  
to which we believe they have been called by the Holy Spirit,  
let us pray for them.

*The bishop, with hands extended over those being ordained, prays:*

We praise you, eternal God,  
because you have called us to be a priestly people,  
offering to you acceptable worship through Jesus Christ, our Lord,  
Apostle and High Priest, Shepherd and Bishop of our souls.  
We thank you that, by dying, Christ has overcome death  
and, having ascended into heaven,  
has poured forth gifts abundantly on your people,  
making some apostles, some prophets,  
some evangelists, some pastors and teachers,  
to equip the saints for the work of ministry,  
to build up Christ's body,  
and to fulfill your gracious purpose in the world.

Give to these your servants the grace and power they need  
to serve you in this ministry.  
Make them faithful pastors, patient teachers, and wise counselors.  
Enable them to serve without reproach,  
to proclaim the gospel of salvation,  
to administer the sacraments of the new covenant,  
and to offer with all your people  
spiritual sacrifices acceptable to you;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
who lives and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and forever.

*Family members and friends are invited to stand where they are for silent prayer during the laying on of hands for the ordinands.*

*The bishop lays both hands on the head of each ordinand, praying:*

*Bishop:* Almighty God, pour upon *Name* the Holy Spirit  
for the office and work of an elder in Christ's holy church.

**People:** **Amen.**

*The bishop places the ordinand's hands on a Bible, saying:*

*Bishop:*        *Name*, take authority as an elder  
                         to proclaim the Word of God  
                         to administer the Holy Sacraments  
                         and to order the life of the Church;  
                         in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**People:**        **Amen.**

*The bishop clothes the ordained elder with a stole.*

HYMN – “THIS LITTLE LIGHT OF MINE”

3.        All through the night, I’m gonna let it shine,  
            all through the night, I’m gonna let it shine;  
            all through the night, I’m gonna let it shine,  
            let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

## THE ORDINATION OF DEACONS

### **DIANA A. ESPOSITO**

Spouse: Andrew J. Esposito

Children: Amelia M. Esposito

Home Church: Havertown: St. Andrews UMC, Ardmore UMC

College: Drexel University, Bachelor of Science in Education, 2006

Seminary: Lutheran Theological Seminary of Philadelphia, Master of Arts in Religion, 2016

Churches Served: West Chester: Grove Church, Philadelphia: Open Door Christian Community, A Wesley

Student Foundation at Drexel University, Ardmore UMC, Camp Innabah

Havertown: Hope UMC, Lansdowne: Trinity Lansdowne UMC (The Garden Church)

Sponsors: Rev. Benjamin Caldwell, Bishop Violet Fisher

*The candidate for ordination as deacon rises and faces the bishop.*

*Bishop:*        A deacon is called  
                         to share Christ’s ministry of servanthood,  
                         to relate the life of the community to its service in the world,  
                         to lead others into Christian discipleship,  
                         to nurture disciples for witness and service,

*A deacon lifts a Bible.*

                         to lead in worship,  
                         to teach and proclaim the Word of God,  
                         to assist elders and appointed local pastors  
                         at Holy Baptism and Holy Communion,

*A deacon lifts a towel and basin with pitcher.*

                         to interpret to the church the world’s hurts and hopes,  
                         to serve all people, particularly the poor, the sick, and the oppressed,

and to lead Christ's people in ministries of compassion and justice,  
liberation and reconciliation,  
especially in the face of hardship and personal sacrifice.  
This is the rule of life and work of a deacon.

Do you believe that God has called you  
to the life and work of a deacon?

**Candidates:** I do so believe.

**Bishop:** As this person is ordained by God and the church  
for the ministry of a deacon  
to which we believe she has been called by the Holy Spirit,  
let us pray for her.

*The bishop, with hands extended over those being ordained, prays:*

We thank you, Living God,  
that in your great love  
you sent Jesus Christ  
to take the form of a servant,  
becoming obedient even to death on the cross,  
and now resurrected and exalted in the heavens.  
You have taught us, by his word and example,  
that whoever would be great among us must be servant of all.

Give this servant grace to be faithful to her promises,  
constant in her discipleship,  
and always ready for works of loving service.  
Make her modest and humble, gentle and strong,  
rooted and grounded in love.  
Give her a share in the ministry of Jesus Christ,  
who came not to be served but to serve.

*Family members and friends are invited to stand where they are for silent prayer during the laying on of hands for the ordinand.*

*The bishop lays both hands on the head of the ordinand, praying:*

**Bishop:** Almighty God, pour upon *Name* the Holy Spirit  
for the office and work of an elder in Christ's holy church.

**People:** Amen.

*The bishop places the ordinand's hands on a Bible, saying:*

**Bishop:** *Name*, take authority as a deacon  
to proclaim the Word of God  
and to lead God's people  
in ministries of compassion and justice;  
in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**People:** Amen.

*The bishop clothes the ordained deacon with a stole.*

HYMN – “THIS LITTLE LIGHT OF MINE”

4. All through the world, I’m gonna let it shine,  
all through the world, I’m gonna let it shine;  
all through the world, I’m gonna let it shine,  
let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

THE BISHOP’S INVITATION  
TO RESPOND TO GOD’S CALL

*Those who are experiencing a call to ministry are invited to come forward.  
Members of the Board of Ordained Ministry will be available  
to offer prayer, support, and encouragement.*

\*HYMN – “HERE I AM, LORD”

1. I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my people cry,  
All who dwell in dark and sin my hand will save.  
I who made the stars of night, I will make their darkness bright.  
Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?

*Refrain:*

Here I am, Lord. Is it I Lord?  
I have heard you calling in the night.  
I will go, Lord, if you lead me.  
I will hold your people in my heart.

2. I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my people’s pain.  
I have wept for love of them. They turn away.  
I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love alone.  
I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send?  
(Refrain)

3. I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame,  
I will set a feast for them. My hand will save.  
Finest bread I will provide till their hearts be satisfied.  
I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send?  
(Refrain)

SENDING FORTH

*Bishop:* Let us pray.

**People:** We thank you, gracious God,  
for raising up among us faithful servants.  
Clothe them with your righteousness,  
and grant that we, with them,

**may glorify you by giving ourselves to others. Amen.**

*Bishop:*

*(to those commissioned and ordained)*

May the God of all grace,  
who has claimed you and called you,  
now equip you and empower you  
for the work of ministry in God's world.

*(to the full gathered body)*

The grace of Jesus Christ,  
the love of God,  
and the communion of the Holy Spirit  
be with you always.

*Deacon:*

May you be sent forth  
to make disciples of all nations.  
May you be sent forth  
to love and to serve.

May you be sent forth  
with the knowledge that Christ is with you always.

**People:        We are sent in Christ's name.  
                     Thanks be to God!**

\*RECESSIONAL HYMNS

“GO TO THE WORLD”

1.     Go to the world! Go into all the earth.  
      Go preach the cross where Christ renews life's worth,  
      baptizing as the sign of our rebirth.  
      Alleluia! Alleluia!
2.     Go to the world! Go into every place.  
      Go live the Word of God's redeeming grace.  
      Go seek God's presence in each time and space.  
      Alleluia! Alleluia!
3.     Go to the world! Go struggle, bless, and pray;  
      the nights of tears give way to joyous day.  
      As servant Church, you follow Christ's own way.  
      Alleluia! Alleluia!
4.     Go to the world! Go as the ones I send,  
      for I am with you 'til the age shall end,  
      when all the hosts of glory cry “Amen!”  
      Alleluia! Alleluia!

“GO, MAKE OF ALL DISCIPLES”

1. “Go, make of all disciples.” We hear the call, O Lord,  
that comes from thee, our Father, in thy eternal Word.  
Inspire our ways of learning through earnest, fervent prayer,  
and let our daily living reveal thee everywhere.
2. “Go, make of all disciples,” baptizing in the name  
of Father, Son, and Spirit, from age to age the same.  
We call each new disciple to follow thee, O Lord,  
redeeming soul and body by water and the Word.
3. “Go, make of all disciples.” We at thy feet would stay  
until each life’s vocation accents thy holy way.  
We cultivate the nature God plants in every heart,  
revealing in our witness the master teacher’s art.
4. “Go, make of all disciples.” We welcome thy command.  
“Lo, I am with you always.” We take thy guiding hand.  
The task looms large before us; we follow without fear;  
in heaven and earth thy power shall bring God’s kingdom here.

## WORSHIP NOTES

The Board of Ordained Ministry of the Eastern Pennsylvania Conference is grateful to all who have helped make the Celebration of Commissioning and Ordination a rich and meaningful experience for commissionees and ordinands.

Providing music leadership for this service is the Philadelphia United Methodist Mass Choir, under the direction of Rev. Eric Carr.

The **Asbury Bible** used in the service was once the possession of the first Methodist bishop, Francis Asbury, and is now placed on permanent display in the museum of St. George's United Methodist Church in Philadelphia.

The **Wesley Chalice** used in this service was sent to St. George's Church in 1785 by John Wesley so that Methodists in the newly formed church could be certain to celebrate the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper.

The **Bishop's Crozier** is made from maple and bloodwood. Maple is easy to bend and shape, representing the ways God seeks to mold each of us into a more perfect person. Its three strips of bloodwood represent the Holy Trinity: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Bloodwood symbolizes the blood of Jesus offered for the salvation of the world. The wood of the crozier bears some imperfections, blemishes, and scars, representing our imperfections and flaws. The clear finish that covers the crozier symbolizes God's cleansing and renewing grace. The crozier's teakwood base – a hard wood, impervious to rot and not easily destroyed – represents the church's 'solid rock' foundation and its strength throughout the centuries. The crozier was made by Greg Ward.

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### Call to Worship

written by Rev. Candy LaBar, 2018

### "Crown Him with Many Crowns"

Words: Matthew Bridges, 1851, and Godfrey Thring, 1874

Music: George J. Elvey, 1868

### "Praise to the Lord, the Almighty"

Words: Joachim Neander, 1680; trans. by Catherine Winkworth, 1863, and Rupert E. Davies, 1983

Music: *Erneuerten Gesangbuch*, 1665; harm. by William Sterndale Bennett, 1864

### "To God Be the Glory"

Words: Fanny J. Crosby, 1875

Music: William H. Doane, 1875

### "Spirit Song"

Words: John Wimber, 1979

Music: John Wimber, 1979

### Matthew 28:16-20

New Revised Standard Version, © 1989

### "Lord, You Give the Great Commission"

Words: Jeffery Rowthorn, 1978

Music: Cyril V. Taylor, 1941

Prayer of Thanksgiving

written by Rev. Candy LaBar, 2018

“This Little Light of Mine”

Words: Traditional African-American spiritual

Music: Traditional African-American spiritual

“Here I Am, Lord”

Words: Dan Schutte, 1981

Music: Dan Schutte, 1981; adapt. by Carlton R. Young, 1988

“Go to the World”

Words: Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1991

Music: Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1906

“Go Make of All Disciples”

Words: Leon M. Adkins, 1955

Music: Henry T. Smart, 1835

Order of Service prepared by The General Board of Discipleship, The General Board of Higher Education and Ministry, and The Office of Christian Unity and Inter-religious Relationships, in collaboration with the Council of Bishops. Revised by Action of the 2016 General Conference.

Commissioning of Missionaries prepared by the General Board of Global Ministries.

Modifications for these services written by Rev. Candy LaBar, 2018.

Special Music to be Selected from the Following:

“We Praise Your Name”

by Dr. F. James Clark and the Shalom Church City of Peace Mass Choir, 2015

“High and Lifted Up”

by the Brooklyn Tabernacle Choir, 1999

“Change Me” - Tamela Mann, 2016