

Biographical Submission

Name: Andrea Brown

Church: lead pastor, Lancaster: Grandview United Methodist Church

Employment/Appointment: lead pastor, Lancaster: Grandview; associate pastor, Lancaster: Grandview; prior work in print journalism and public-school teaching and as an adjunct seminary professor (writing coach)

Connectional Ministries: Board of Ordained Ministry, Whites Confronting Racism, Manifest (a partnership of Lancaster city churches with the Urban Commission and Impact Missions, a housing ministry); past: Board of Pensions & Health Benefits, SpiritNet editor, district ministries planning team, Tools for Ministry keynote speaker and workshop presenter. My congregation supports the Anchorage Breakfast Program housed at Lancaster: First as well as other district ministries

Ecumenical Ministries: Lancaster County Clergy Partnership for Education (part of POWER), NAACP clergy group, Manheim Township Ministerium; local food, shelter, clothing, and refugee and immigration partnerships; Embrace Lancaster (support of LGBTQ+ people of faith); Re-Entry Management Organization and other local programs for criminal justice reform and care of those affected by the system

Awards/Publications: Meek Award for distinguished service in the practice of pastoral ministry from Lancaster Theological Seminary; articles for local newspaper about mission trip to visit GBGM missionaries Dr. Mark & Deirdre Zimmerman in Nepal and on fair educational funding; co-author of *Out of Exodus: A Journey in Open & Affirming Ministry*; sermon on transfiguration published online by *Lectionary Homiletics* (goodpreacher.com)

Other Information: Married to Tim Buckwalter with grown children in Philadelphia and Lancaster.

Statement: As an observer of the 2019 General Conference, my heart was broken for the state of The United Methodist Church. More even than at the outcome, I felt despair at winners-and-losers processes, dispirited worship, and a sense of human disconnection. There was not much that felt holy about the conferencing.

I know it can be otherwise. I know because I serve and lead a healthy, growing congregation that has as many conservatives as liberals, yet is able to gather, knowing that God is bigger than any of our individual perspectives. I have seen that it is possible in such a setting to love and affirm LGBTQ+ people in a way they recognize as loving and affirming. I have seen that it is hard, yet life-giving for a historically white congregation to work actively on the ways that racism infects and limits us and others. I have seen that it is possible to discuss and make decisions in contentious matters without spite or bitterness or deceit. I have seen that it is beneficial, when we hurt others, to aim for true repentance. And I am regularly in worship in which the Spirit's presence is evident, known in tears and joy and answered prayer.

The Lord's Prayer and 1 John 4:7-12 and the hymns of the Wesleys are central to my faith. Luke 4:18-19 inspires my calling. "Letter from a Birmingham Jail" (written by the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr.) convicts me. I am an evangelistically-minded, Bible-believing, people-loving, hope-filled Christian.

Biographical Submission

Name: Christopher L Fisher

Church: Pastor, Schuylkill Haven: First United Methodist Church.

Employment/Appointment: Pastor, 2005–Present, Schuylkill Haven First UMC; Director of UM Studies, Evangelical Theological Seminary, Myerstown, PA; Adjunct, United Theological Seminary, Dayton, OH, and

Asbury Theological Seminary, Wilmore, KY; Associate Pastor, West Lawn UMC (1996-2000); Pastor, St. Philip's & Mt. Pisgah UMCs, Kensington Area Ministry, Philadelphia (1991-1996).

Connectional Ministries: NW District Committee on Ordained Ministry (2009-2016); Counsel for the Church, EPA Conference (2012-13); Latino Ministries Spanish Theological Training Initiative (2007-2011); Evangelical Connection; NW District Superintendent's Support Team (2005-2008); Conference Communications Team (1996-2000), Conference Computer Task Force (1996-2000).

Ecumenical Ministries: Treasurer, Schuylkill Haven Council of Churches (2008-2010); Chaplain, Boy Scout Troop 625, Schuylkill Haven (2008-2017)

Awards/Publications: *Human Significance in Theology and the Natural Sciences* (Pickwick, 2010). "Some Theological Issues in the Church's Contemporary Discussion on Homosexuality," *Evangelical Journal* 30:1 (Spring, 2012). "Apes, Humans, and X-Men: Human Uniqueness and the Meaning of Personhood," *Theology and Science* 3:3 (2005). *Theta Phi* Honorary Theological Fraternity (1990); *Tau Beta Pi* Honorary Engineering Fraternity (1981).

Other Information: B.S. & B.A., Lehigh University (1984); M.Div, Asbury Theological Seminary (1990); Ordained Elder, EPA Conference (1995); PhD, University of Edinburgh (2004). Spouse: Elizabeth Fisher, LMFT; Children: Luke, Mercy, Raquel and Evangelina.

Statement: I was raised in the UM Church and made a commitment to Christ as a child. I lost my faith during college, where I was strongly influenced by the secular worldview and stopped believing in the Bible. While traveling after college, I recommitted my life to Christ, surrendering to him on his own terms, including putting faith in his Word. I came alive to God after this, becoming aware of the power of God to save, transform and heal, and answering a call to ministry. Since then, I have extensively researched apologetics, science and theology questions, and the defense of biblical Christian faith in a secular age, completing doctoral studies in those areas.

I believe in the Nicene Creed where it says the church is "apostolic," and I interpret this to mean the church is built on the teaching of the Apostles. The Lord Jesus entrusted his word to them, and by the power of the Holy Spirit they have passed it on accurately. I believe transformative discipleship is at the heart of the church's mission. Jesus' disciples are empowered by him to escape the corruption that is in the world due to the hardening of hearts in sin (of which I am personally familiar) and are called to be conformed to Christ's image in ever-increasing personal and social holiness (which I am working on).

My convictions are orthodox and evangelical in the classic Wesleyan sense, with some charismatic and messianic Jewish influences. If elected to General Conference, I would favor legislation which helps the church live into its mission of transformative disciple-making. I would also support a gracious exit path for those who cannot live with the current direction and growth trends of the denomination.

Biographical Submission

Name: Coleen Brandt Painter

Church: Elverson UMC

Employment/Appointment: Local Church Appointments: Philadelphia: Siloam and Kensington "Old Brick" (KAM), Lancaster: Otterbein, Philadelphia: Ridge Avenue, Mont Clare: Otterbein, Springfield: C.C. Hancock, Honey Brook, Elverson

Connectional Ministries: *Current:* EPC Board of Pensions and Health Benefits (president), EPC Commission

on Archives and History, volunteer counselor at EPC Camps. *Past:* EPC Board of Ordained Ministry (Liaison to persons on Appointment Beyond the Local Church), Associate Conference Secretary, EPC Council on Finance and Administration, United Methodist Metro-Ministries (secretary), EPC Committee on Investigation, Wesley Foundation at Drexel University, Conference Board of Global Ministries (NE District Mission Secretary)

Ecumenical Ministries: Appointments as Chaplain: US Army Reserve (Captain), ManorCare Health Services, Norristown State Hospital and Southeastern Veterans Center (PA Council of Churches contract), Pottstown VNA Hospice. Executive Director: On Track Behavioral Health Services. Activities: *Current:* Twin Valley Food Pantry. *Past:* Servant Spiritual Care (secretary).

Awards/Publications:

Other Information: Elected member of the Board of Auditors, Limerick Township, Montgomery County. Trained Master Gardener with Penn State Cooperative Extension with an interest in Native Plants. Married 37 years to Mark S. Painter, Sr. 4 children, now grown: 2 foster sons from Southeast Asia now married with families, 2 biological sons at home due to their autism disability. Advocate for better services for people with disabilities and former leader of a 4-H Club for children with autism. Developed and implemented a confirmation curriculum for non-verbal children with autism at Spring City UMC. Co-author and shepherd of the resolution on “Abusive Treatment Methods for Persons with Mental Disabilities” which first appeared in the UM Book of Resolutions in 1996.

Statement: Although I have lived my adult life in Eastern Pennsylvania, I grew up in the Yellowstone Conference and I completely understand the Western Jurisdiction’s adverse reaction to the decisions of the 2019 General Conference. GC2020 needs to revisit those decisions in favor of a solution that respects regional and cultural differences on the issues for which we do not have consensus. Whatever happens, the devil will be in the details, especially the finances, and General Conference will need members who can understand the broad implications of financial details. This is one of the skills that I can offer the EPC delegation.

Biographical Submission

Name: Dan Lebo

Church: Pastor, Annville

Employment/Appointment: Pastor, Somerton; Director, Innabah Camp and Retreat Center; Pastor, Annville; Chaplain/Coordinator of Spiritual Life, Lebanon Valley College

Connectional Ministries: Global Justice Volunteer, General Board of Global Ministries; Young Adult Clergy Leadership Forum, General Board of Church and Society; Conference Board of Camping and Retreat Ministries, ex-officio; Northwest District Committee on Ordained Ministry; West District Committee on Ordained Ministry; Board of Ordained Ministry;

Ecumenical Ministries: Evangelicals for Social Action; Somerton Ministerium; Somerton Food Bank; Annville-Cleona Council of Churches; Interfaith Dialogue Panelist at Lebanon Valley College; Lebanon Rescue Mission

Awards/Publications: Excellence in Church History, Palmer Seminary; Lebo, D. (2010). Book Talk-With Paul Chilcote and Layceye Warner. *Witness: Journal of the Academy for Evangelism in Theological Education*, 24, 81-92.; Doctoral Candidate, Ph.D. in Organizational Leadership, Alvernia University

Other Information: Certified facilitator, Prepare-Enrich; Married to Becca Lebo and father of Claire and

Alice.

Statement: As a husband, father, pastor, chaplain, and graduate student, I have learned a lot about the importance of listening. When we don't listen we can't communicate well. We argue, we misinterpret, we fail to build relationships, and ultimately we fail to realize the kingdom and community that God is building in our midst. As I watched the live feed of the most recent General Conference I was distraught by many things I witnessed. Perhaps none struck deeper than what I interpreted as a failure in our process to listen. I watched as voices begged to be noticed, begged to be heard, begged to be listened to; but we, as a denomination, closed our ears.

Our church is better when all voices are heard and, more importantly, listened to. The United Methodist Church is a diverse body with many voices that deserve to be represented. My desire to be a delegate for General Conference comes from my belief that one of the voices that is underrepresented at the table is the voice of young adults in our connection. At the 2019 special session of General Conference, less than 7% of delegates could be categorized as young adults. I believe greater representation of this population is important because we are part of the leadership of the church now and will be for many years to come. I, as well as many other young adults, understand that the decisions that are made on the extremely important issues discussed at General Conference will have a lasting impact on the future of our denomination.

Every year when I fill out my charge conference forms I smile as I fill in my projected retirement date for 2050, because it seems so far away. In reality, it is not as far as we think. The decisions that are made in 2020 will still be felt in 2050 and beyond, which is why young adult representation is so crucial. God willing I would be honored to serve our conference in this capacity.

Biographical Submission

Name: Dawn Taylor-Storm

Church: Eastern PA Conference South District

Employment/Appointment: District Superintendent (2014-Present); Dean of the Cabinet (2018-2019); Pastor, St. Matthew's UMC of Valley Forge (2008-2014); Pastor, White Haven UMC (2001-2008); Associate Pastoral Intern, New Haven: First and Summerfield UMC (1999-2001)

Connectional Ministries: GCFA Economic Advisory Committee; Jurisdictional & Conference Episcopacy Committee; EPA Congo Partnership; Urban Commission; Board of Ordained Ministry; Conference Relations Committee; District Teams

Ecumenical Ministries: Collaborative Partnerships with the AME Church and Palmer Seminary; Former: Interfaith Mainline Ministerium; Methodists United in Mission (AME/CME/UMC)

Awards/Publications: Top Academic Excellence Award Yale Divinity School (2001)

Other Information: Led joint EPA/Pen-Del Conference Delegation to the Democratic Republic of Congo; led the development project for the first pediatric medical & eye clinic in Mpsa, Congo; Married to Dan Taylor-Storm, Parent of Luke (15) and Rebecca (12); Enjoy skiing, walks with our dog and documentaries (I encourage you to take time to watch *This is Congo & Thirteenth*).

Statement: "Resurrection happens on the third day not because the people voted for it. Resurrection happened on the third day because the movement of God could not be legislated. You see, God does not depend on a majority vote...." (Spoken during debate at GC2020.) Since General Conference 2019, I have seen resurrection. I have watched thousands of young people engage the church and claim it as their own, refusing to

walk away, but instead committing their lives even more to the proclamation of the Gospel. I have witnessed churches renewing their commitments to be places of radical hospitality. I have seen people finding their voice and speaking, even if their voices shake. I believe God is doing a new thing through the United Methodist movement. I am committed to a United Methodist movement where all people are invited to the table and are fully welcome in all ministries of the church. I take this work seriously and am presently working collaboratively across the United Methodist connection to discern a future that seeks abundant life for all. If elected, you have my full commitment to engage the work of the General Conference in the same way I engage the work of the church - with my prayers, presence, gifts, service and witness.

Biographical Submission

Name: Edward (Eddie) Locke Cameron

Church: Hopewell UMC, Downingtown, PA

Employment/Appointment: Associate Pastor, Downingtown, PA: Hopewell UMC (2018-Present); Pastor of Administration and Evangelism, Lancaster, PA: First UMC (2016-2018); Minister of Spiritual Growth, Lancaster PA: First UMC (2009-2016)

Connectional Ministries: Board of Ordained Ministry, Co-chair Residency in Ministry; Jeremiah 29 Team; EPA Conference Safe Sanctuary Committee; member of the Whites Confronting Racism cohort for the EPA UMC

Ecumenical Ministries: Prior member of Lancaster Downtown Ministerium; Founder of Labor for Lancaster, a city-wide Day of Service supported by various denominational churches throughout Lancaster City; Lancaster County Council of Churches (meal ministry)

Awards/Publications: GBHEM 2014 Emerging Ministry Grant for "cutting-edge and innovative ministries in peace and justice that reach outside the wall of the church."

Other Information: Ordained Deacon in Full Connection; Married to Lisa Cameron and father of James Cameron

Statement: We are living in turbulent times, as together we navigate the waters surrounding us that ebb and flow with differing opinions of church, culture, faith, and God's divine Spirit. At times the waters feel like dams breaking, overwhelming us and too deep to find our footing. Yet, in these uncertain times, we must realize God is once again at work, forming something new and good, just as God did during creation (Genesis 1:1-2). As a nominee for delegate to the 2020 General Conference of The United Methodist Church, I cling to the promise of God to restore our health and heal our wounds (Jeremiah 30:17), and in the hope of Christ, to complete in us what God has started (Philippians 1:6).

God's Spirit is stirring over our chaos once again. God is creating something new and good in our midst that will honor and glorify Jesus our Lord. And God invites us all to actively and courageously participate in this new creation story God is revealing to us and the world. As a delegate, I will be faithful to God's call on my life as a deacon to seek justice and compassion, serve my sisters and brothers with integrity and authenticity, and proclaim the Good News of Jesus Christ as revealed to us in the Old and New testaments. It is my prayer that God's creative and life-giving powers be realized once again in our beloved church. Amen.

Biographical Submission

Name: Jeffrey Alan Raffauf

Church: West Lawn

Employment/Appointment: Full-time staff, Young Life-Pittsburgh/North Hills (1977-1979); Pastor, Jonestown (1982-1992); Sr. Pastor, Columbia (1992-2000); Lead Pastor, West Lawn (2000-present)

Connectional Ministries: Lebanon-Reading District Council on Ministries (1988-1992); Conference Education Society (member, 1984-1991, & chair, 1988-1991); Conference Camping Board (member & chair, 1991-2000); Conference Council on Finance & Administration (2000-2005); chaired Central District CMF team (2000-2006); member-at-large, Congregational Transformation Team (2005-2007); 2004 Alternate to Jurisdictional Conference; Member, Board of Trustees, Cornwall Manor (2004-2013, 2016-present); Board of Ordained Ministry (2007-2016); Central District Committee on Church Location & Building (2011-2012); Jeremiah 29 Team on Central & then South districts; 2016 clergy delegate to General & Jurisdictional conferences; 2019 clergy delegate to special session of General Conference.

Ecumenical Ministries: Associate Chaplain, Reading Hospital (2006-2007); active in local ministerial associations in Northern Lebanon County, Jonestown Council of Churches, Columbia, Wilson Area, and Reading-Berks Conference of Churches; prison ministry at Berks County Jail

Awards/Publications: Wilson High School “Distinguished Alumni” – 2010
“Growing the Local Church through Worship: One Model for Reaching New People, Younger People, and More Diverse People” (Doctor of Ministry Project Thesis, Wesley Theological Seminary, 2013)

Other Information:

Bachelor of Arts degree (Sociology), the Pennsylvania State University, 1977

Master of Divinity degree, Wesley Theological Seminary, 1982

Doctor of Ministry degree (Church Leadership), Wesley Theological Seminary, 2013

Statement: It has been an honor and privilege to live out my calling in a small, a mid-sized, and now a larger congregation. I believe the breadth of my experiences gives me a rich pool from which to draw when discerning and making decisions in my local church, as a voting member in full connection in our Annual Conference, and, if so honored, at the Jurisdictional and General Church levels. Having recently served at the last two General Conferences, I believe it could be beneficial to have such experience on the next General/Jurisdictional Conference delegation. If elected, I would hope to serve the whole Church with fairness, compassion, and a hopeful eye for future ministry in The United Methodist Church.

Biographical Submission

Name: Joan H Trout

Church: Pastor, Willow Street: Boehm’s UMC & Historic Boehm’s Chapel [2017 – present]

Employment/Appointment: Past; 2011 – 2017: Pastor, Hibernia UMC
2004 – 2011: Pastor, Former UM Church of the Resurrection
[now Exton UMC]
1994 – 2004: Conestoga: Safe Harbor UMC

Connectional Ministries: Southeast District Committee on Ordained Ministry, chair [2008 – 2016], Conference Board of Ordained Ministry member [2008 – 2016], member SouthWest District Committee on Superintendency, member [1996 – 2004] Active at Rawlinsville Camp Meeting, [1994 – present]

Ecumenical Ministries: West Lampeter Community Fair Pet Show Judge [since 1975], Conestoga Pastor’s

Group member [1994 – 2004], Lionville – Exton Ministerium member, [2004 – 2011] Willow Street Ministerium [new member]

Awards/Publications: none

Other Information: married to Barry L Trout [CLM – pastor at Pomeroy UMC] 2 grown daughters, 4 grandchildren, 1 cat [Sir Felix Martin Boehms]

Statement: Even after a much-anticipated Special General Conference in February, Our UMC is still in a state of deep division. While a vote was taken and a plan was approved by a small majority—along with possible voting irregularities and parts of the approved Traditional plan declared unconstitutional—many who voted for the One Church Plan insist, as a matter of conscience, that they will minister as though that plan was approved. It is readily apparent that we still have much to do to find a way forward that can lead to ways for all to minister according to their understandings of Scripture, human sexuality and their conscience.

I am willing to pray and work with all people with varying views on these matters to discern how God can lead us away from the hurt and pain and toward a new Methodist future that provides a way forward for all United Methodists to worship, share and serve Jesus Christ in ways consistent with their understanding of Scripture, God’s will and our human condition, every person created in the image of God, yet sinful and needing the redemption, forgiveness and freedom that Jesus Christ brings to us by his great love, his mercy, grace and forgiveness.

Biographical Submission

Name: Rev. Joseph F. DiPaolo.

Church: Lead Pastor, First UMC of Lancaster, 2015-present.

Employment/Appointment: Senior Pastor, Wayne UMC, 2003-2015; Pastor, Solebury/New Hope UMC, 1992-2003; Pastor, Wissinoming (Philadelphia) UMC, 1988-1992; Student Pastor, St. Luke UMC (Bryn Mawr), 1985-1988.

Connectional Ministries: Delegate to General Conference, 1996, 2016, 2019; Member, Commission on the General Conference, 2016-present; Member, GCAH, 2016-present; delegate to NEJ Conference, 1996-2016 inclusive; President, NEJCAH, 2016-present; Secretary, 2012-2016; Member, NEJ Vision Team, 2008-2012; Member, EPA CAH, 2000-present; President, EPA Historical Society; 1998-present; Instructor, Methodist History, Doctrine and Polity, EPA Conference Laity Academy, 2011, 2012, 2014, 2016, 2017; Chair, Mid-Town Parish Vision Team, 2013-2015; Sec., 2008-2013; Member, EPA Conference Urban Commission, 2012-2016; Chair, EPA Administrative Support Review Team, 2004-2008.

Ecumenical Ministries: Adjunct Professor, Evangelical Seminary (Myerstown, PA), 2009-2017; and Palmer Theological Seminary (Philadelphia); 2006-2013; Trustee, Evangelical Seminary (Myerstown), 2005-2018; Member, Advisory Board, Campolo Center for Ministry, Eastern University, (St. Davids, PA), 2014-2016; Trustee, EAPE (St. Davids, PA), 2013-2014; Senior Chaplain and Trustee, Ocean City (NJ) Tabernacle, 2001-2005; President, Delaware Valley Council of Churches, 2002-2003; Sec., 1996-2002.

Awards/Publications: *Wide Views and a Loving Heart: The Life and Ministry of Bishop Levi Scott*, Philadelphia: EPAC Historical Society, 2018; “So Shall Their Chains Fall Off”: Bishop Levi Scott and Nineteenth Century Black Methodism, in *Methodist History* 55:4 (July 2017), 241-264; “‘A Very Singular Man:’ Rev. Moses Dissinger of the Evangelical Association,” in *Methodist History* 53:1 (October 2014), 40-61; “Social Justice: Liberating a Biblical Mandate from Political Captivity,” in *Evangelical Journal* 30:1 (Spring 2012), 22-39; “*To Your Tents, O Israel!*” *The Life of Rev. Andrew Manship, Evangelist and Entrepreneur*.

Fruitland, Maryland: Arcadia Enterprises, 2009; “‘That Dear Man of God:’ Edward Evans and the Origins of American Methodism,” in *Methodist History* 47:1 (October 2008), 26-47; “*A Hot Bed of Secession:*” *New Hope and the Civil War*. Bedminster, PA: Adams Apple Press, 2001; *My Business Was to Fight the Devil: Recollections of Adam Wallace, Peninsula Circuit Rider, 1847-1865*. Acton, MA: Tapestry Press, 1998.

Other Information: Married since 1985 to Susan; three grown children: Christian, Laura and Timothy. Since appointment to First UMC in 2015, launched a ministry which currently serves free breakfasts to 150 persons per day, Monday to Friday; and led a capital campaign to relieve \$2 million in lingering debt.

Statement: The United Methodist Church is in crisis, deeply divided and uncertain of its future. As a participant in the 2019 General Conference, I do not wish to see another painful session like that one in 2020. We must find an alternative “way forward” which allows a win/win solution for all parties, and allow people enough secure space to pursue their ministries in accordance with the dictates of conscience. And we must put our focus back on making disciples for Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

Biographical Submission

Name: Rev. Johnson Dodla, M.A. M.Div

Church: Olivet United Methodist Church, Coatesville, PA

Employment/Appointment: Crossroads United Methodist Church, Exton United Methodist Church (UMCR & Crossroads Merged Congregations), Olivet United Methodist Church

Connectional Ministries: Healing the Wounds of Racism, Camp and Retreat Ministries, Board of Ordained Ministry Co-Chair.

Ecumenical Ministries: Exton-Lionville Ministerium, Coatesville Area Pastors Network

Awards/Publications:

Other Information:

Statement: Our family is quite diverse. I am Indian, married to Christyn, who is Caucasian. We have four kids ranging from 4-11 years old. Our older two children joined our family through adoption. They are African American. We also have two biological children who are biracial. When our family breaks bread together at a restaurant, most bystanders give us a puzzled look, a look that is begging the question, "Are all of you together?" Irrespective of the diversity, we are family. Our kids fight like any other siblings. They love and show compassion when another is hurting. One Sunday, during my sermon, I said: “My kids are obnoxious at church because they are so well loved by everyone in the pews.” They feel secure when they are within the walls of Olivet UMC.

2020 General Conference is going to impact how my kids will experience the only church they have ever known. I believe that there is a way forward for our church to move past our current impasse. We can be a church where there is theological diversity, where everyone is welcome to break bread at the Lord’s Table. I believe that we can be the church where the world around us is going to look at us and ask the question “Are all of you together?” My prayer is that we the family, called the United Methodist can shout a resounding YES!

Biographical Submission

Name: Rev. Lydia E. Muñoz

Church: Church of the Open Door, Kennett Square PA

Employment/Appointment: Pastor, Starting Point: Philly - Fairmount/Northern Liberties; Pastor, Cristo Rey UMC - West Grove, Pa; Pastor, Narberth UMC; Director, Escuela Teologica Evangelica - Latino Commission EPA; Multi-systemic Therapist, Pennsylvania Counseling Services- Lancaster Pa; Conference Coordinator of Young People's Ministries; Staff of Division on Ministries with Young People GBOD; Program Pastor of Outreach Ministries - Seminole UMC, Florida; Pastor, Emmanuel-Stevens UMC, Harrisburg Pa; Pastor, First Spanish UMC York, Pa; Student Pastor, Hyattsville UMC, Hyattsville MD; Student Pastor, Silver Springs UMC, Silver Springs MD, Dauphin County MH/MR Therapist, Harrisburg, Pa,

Connectional Ministries: Board Co-Chair of National Methodist Federation for Social Action, EPA MFSA Chapter Co-Convener, MARCHA NEJ President, EPA Latino Commission, EPA Urban Commission, EPA Rapid Response Team - Current Co-Chair, National Plan for Hispanic/Latino Ministries, Reconciling Ministries Network, Cross-Racial/Cross Cultural Central District Committee, Ethnic-Local Church consultant, NEJ 2016 Planning Team, Central District Committee on Nominations, MARCHA (Metodistas Unidos Representando la Causa Hispano Latino) caucus member since 1990, Member of UM Hymnal Review Committee, GCORR Facing the Future Design Team.

Ecumenical Ministries: Heeding God's Call; Emergent Village Co-Hort, Worship leader/Design team for World Council of Churches Global Gathering 2013 in South Korea, New Sanctuary Movement of Philadelphia, Puertas Abiertas Immigrant Counseling Services, La Comunidad Hispana, POWER Metro

Awards/Publications: <http://www.wellspringsjournal.org/2014/04/power-to-be-witnesses/>, *My Peace*. **WCC2013 Song Book**, *Make us One*. **NEJ Clergy Women's Gathering Song Book**. *Gracias Amigo*. **Mark Miller & Lydia Munoz**. (soon to be published by Choristers Guild). lentforeveryone.blog, **Abingdon Press Preachers Manual**

Other Information: Spouse: Rev. James F. McIntire, Children: William Gabriel Caraballo Munoz, stepchildren: Lacey McIntire, Tim McIntire and Lindsay McIntire. 2 dogs: Mac and Ella
We are a blended bi-racial/bi-cultural family!

Statement:

I believe the Church of Jesus Christ is at its best when it embraces all of its diversity and differences as its core value. When we embrace the fact that we do not have to be the same in order to be together then we are truly being the body of Christ and a witness of God's reign on earth. In all of creation, God's creative energy can be seen in the variety of colors, shapes, languages, imagination and our ability to love more than our ability to hate. Ephesians 2:10 says, "For we are what God has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life." (NRSV). The most powerful witness that we can give the world is to see how we love each other in the midst of deep disagreement. I believe we lost that opportunity in this last special session of General Conference, but I have not lost hope. Like Paul, "we are pressed on all sides, but not crushed; perplexed but not in despair." (2 Cor. 4:8) I believe God is still in control and the Holy Spirit is in the midst of great transformation.

In a world polarized and divided, in a country that struggles to come to terms with the fact that by 2044 demographics show that we will be a majority minority country, we need the witness of Church. We need a witness of how an institution can divest itself from its racist practices and past and commit to being a church that truly embraces its work in eliminating racism in all its forms understanding that racism is incompatible to the teachings of Jesus Christ, and sees this as its most important goal.

This is not easy. We can only do this work together. It is work that involves a deep commitment from each of us to love each other beyond the labels that we often place on one another of "conservative" or "progressive." So that we can embrace our shared mission and vision. I dream and work for a church where everyone is welcome and where our "good works" are seen as a clear sign of people who have captured the message of

Jesus Christ and are committed to live into it. I believe we can do it and as Wesley reminds us, “the best of all is, God is with us!”

Biographical Submission

Name: Mandy S. Miller

Church: Holy Cross: Reading and Calvary Campuses

Employment/Appointment: Associate Pastor: Tokyo Union Church (Tokyo, Japan, 2000-2003), Pastor: Juniata Park UMC (Philadelphia, 2003-2005), Pastor: St. Matthew’s UMC (Reading, 2005-2008), Pastor of Visitation: Holy Cross (Reading, 2008-2018, Pastor: Calvary UMC (Wyomissing, 2016-present), Pastor: Holy Cross: Reading and Calvary Campuses (2018-present).

Connectional Ministries: Previous Co-Chair Women in Professional Ministry

Ecumenical Ministries: Previous On-Site Coordinator Wesleyan/Holiness Women Clergy Conference

Awards/Publications: None

Other Information: M. Div. Wesley Theological Seminary (2000), Graduate of the Financial Leadership Academy, President Owatin Creek Elementary Association of Parents and Teachers

Statement: The God I worship and serve is a God of inclusion, a God who welcomes all to experience amazing love and grace. The message I read in the Bible and see in the life of Jesus Christ is one who loves all people—especially those whom others attempt to shame or exclude. Galatians 3:28— “There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus”—is among the first Bible verses I memorized. I value the biblical lessons of equality I learned as a child and these teachings serve me well as I continue in ministry today. We each bring unique gifts and graces into the church as we strive to serve the living God. My first pastorate in Tokyo demonstrated how people from all over the globe could worship and serve God amid a whole variety of differences. Everyone was welcome. Our strength in ministry came from our ability to work together and to value each person. This is what we are called to do as the church—to make space for all to use their gifts and to allow God’s love to flow freely. The Holy Spirit empowers me to lead people to Christ and to preach and teach God’s inclusive love for all.

Biographical Submission

Name: Monica B. Guepet

Church: Pastor, West Grove United Methodist Church

Employment/Appointment: Director/Pastor of Christian Education, Hatboro: Lehman Memorial United Methodist Church, Pastor, Hellertown: St. Paul United Methodist Church, Pastor, Ackermanville United Methodist Church, Pastor, West Grove United Methodist Church

Connectional Ministries: South District Committee on Ministry chair, Board of Ministry, Annual Conference Co-Coordinator of Worship, Christian Educator’s Fellowship, Children’s Ministry, Conference Sessions, Head Teller, Women in Professional Ministry, Financial Leadership Academy

Ecumenical Ministries: Drexel University Wesley Foundation, Avon Grove Ministerium, Constellation Network (community organizing), Southern Chester County Opportunity Network (poverty alleviation and advocacy)

Awards/Publications: Schreyer's Honors Thesis: "The similarities in Roman Catholic and Evangelical Lutheran liturgy since the liturgical movements of the 1960s", 2003. Master's Thesis: "Full Table: Kin-dom of God", 2011

Other Information: Married to Stephen Guepet, three children: Alisabeth, Felicity, and Peter. I have been present at 2012 and 2019 General Conferences as an observer and an official monitor. I love dance from liturgical dance to performing the Nutcracker to goofing off in the kitchen with my family!

Statement: The gospel calls us to live out a call to love God and our neighbor as ourselves. Our global connection vivifies hope, faith and love, while we seek to remove harm from the insidious places where it has gotten stuck. I give thanks to God for the places where love, faith, and hope have poked up like persistent flowers in the cracks of the sidewalk of the church. We are called as the body of Christ to care well for one another in our shared love for God. The 2020 General Conference provides a resilient opportunity for creative leadership for those willing to prayerfully discern the movement of the Holy Spirit. Reflective, adaptive, contextual leadership is needed for these changing times. If elected, it would be my honor to serve faithfully.

Biographical Submission

Name: Reverend Robin M. Hynicka

Church: Arch Street United Methodist Church, 55 North Broad Street, Philadelphia, PA 19107

Employment/Appointment: Pastor, Arch Street United Methodist Church (2004 – to date).

Connectional Ministries: United Methodist Metro Ministries, Inc.; Urban Commission; Methodist Federation for Social Action; National Methodist Federation for Social Action Program Council; Reconciling United Methodists of Eastern Pennsylvania; Delegate to the 2012 General Conference; Delegate to the 2016 NE Jurisdictional Conference; Convener of the Whites Confronting Racism Training in partnership with the Conference Commission on Religion and Race, the Board of Ordained Ministry and the Office of Connectional Ministries

Ecumenical Ministries: Founding Member of POWER (Philadelphians Organized to Witness Empower and Rebuild) an interfaith network of communities of faith and conscience in Philadelphia and beyond advocating for and achieving sacred and social justice.

Awards/Publications: Honorary Doctorate from Albright College; Urban Ministry Award, Eastern Pennsylvania Conference; Lifetime Achievement Award from One Step Away (a publication produced by unhoused citizens).

Other Information: Member of the Board of Trustees of Albright College; Co-Convener of The Center – Philadelphia (a non-profit committed to social justice and civic engagement); President of Center City Organized for Responsible Development

Statement: John Wesley's Holy Club members asked themselves 22 different questions. While all of them require serious consideration, there are three that stand out for me.

1. "Is Christ real to me?" My faith journey began as a child in the Sunday School of St. Paul's Evangelical United Brethren Church in Mountville, PA. Miss Reese made me memorize the Books of the Bible and Miss Hartman taught me to sing "Jesus Loves Me." That small-town congregation embraced me as I knelt at the altar and in a tearful prayer asked Jesus to love me. That love is real today, and those seemingly simple assignments and songs remain at the core of my faith.

2. “Do I insist upon doing something about which my conscience is uneasy?” I am committed to a fully inclusive church that puts racial justice, LGBTQ justice, gender justice, economic justice, environmental justice at the center of our walk with Jesus. I pray for, preach and promote wholeheartedly: the full inclusion of LGBTQ persons in the life of the church; the restructuring of economies that perpetuate poverty; and the dismantling of racism by addressing white privilege—my own and that embedded in the ecclesiastical, social and political systems of society.

3. “Did the Bible live in me today?” Preaching at Grace Café, a weekly time of worship and food fellowship with persons experiencing homelessness and hunger, is such an ominous task. I add wrinkles to my brow thinking of ways to connect with the 200 or so souls who gather in the sanctuary on Sundays at 5:30 PM. I have learned that if, before I speak, I walk up and down the aisles of the sanctuary and shake hands, fist-bump or flash the peace sign to each person gathered, what I say later in the sermon becomes a living word. It is less about what is said and totally about what is done to be in the presence of the people.

Biographical Submission

Name: Rev. Shauna K. Ridge

Church: Thorndale UMC

Employment/Appointment: Pastor, Thorndale UMC (July 2017 – Present), Memorial UMC (July 2014 – June 2017), and Romansville UMC (Nov. 2013 – Jan. 2014); Intern at Crossroads Hospice, Plymouth Meeting (2013); Director of Lay Ministries at Hopewell UMC (Jan. 2007 – Nov. 2013).

Connectional Ministries: Co-Chair, COSROW (Current); Co-Chair, Women in Professional Ministry (2018 – Present); Downingtown-Coatesville Mission Connexion (2017 – present); SOULanco Mission Connexion (2014-2017); Equalizing Lay Delegate to Annual Conference (2007-2013).

Ecumenical Ministries: Downingtown Area Ministerium (2017 – present); Solanco Ministerium (2014-2017); Board Member, Solanco Neighborhood Ministries (2015-2017).

Other Information: Married to Jamie Ridge, with two children, Jordan and Carly. Education: M.Div., Wesley Theological Seminary, 2014; B.A., Immaculata University, 2004.

Statement: It is a privilege to be considered to serve as a delegate to this historic General Conference. As one who did not grow up in a family of faith, and having been raised by parents who were deeply wounded by the church, I will bring a unique perspective to this delegation. I came to faith later in life through two vital congregations. They taught me how God’s grace is available to me and to all. They shared their love for Jesus and his love for me and for all. They showed me the power of the Holy Spirit when we, as his disciples, do good work and when we work together for the good of all. I love the local church, and I believe that we are the hope that this hurting world so desperately needs. There is surely much at stake for the future of our denomination in 2020. This is the perspective with which I will serve if elected.

Biographical Submission

Name: TRACY L BASS, Esq.

Church: EAST DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT

Employment/Appointment: Servant Leadership: East District Superintendent; Paoli; Downingtown; Haws; Old Brick. PA Licensed Attorney.

Connectional Ministries: Secretary Board of Directors Wespath (UMC Benefits and Investments); Conference Board of Pension and Health Benefits; Ex Officio member of District and Conference Boards, Committees, Commissions; Ministries, etc., including BOOM, DCOM, Metro Ministries, and BMCR.

Ecumenical Ministries: Member Urban Theological Institute United Lutheran Seminary

Awards/Publications: Rev. Bass has received a number of honors, and awards and has been recognized for academic achievement, evangelism and community service.

Other Information: Rev. Bass continues to be a member of the Pennsylvania Bar and has participated in legal education training for chancellors with the United Methodist General Council on Finance and Administration's Legal Forum

Statement: Throughout the various seasons of my life I'm guided by scripture. In this season I meditate on the following passage: "You will make known to me the path of life; In Your presence is fullness of joy; In Your right hand there are pleasures forever." Psalm 16:11