

Episcopal Candidate Criteria
EPA Delegation 2019-2020

Vision for a Bishop

“ For a bishop. As God’s steward, must be blameless...not...arrogant or quick tempered or addicted to wine or violent or greedy for gain; but...must be hospitable, a lover of goodness, prudent, upright, devout, and self-controlled. [A bishop] must a firm grasp of the word that is trustworthy in accordance with teaching, so that [she/he] may be able both to preach with sound doctrine and to refute those who contradict it” (Titus 1:7-9, NRSV).

Personal Qualities

- Thinks and acts globally and locally in rural, urban, and suburban contexts.
- Understands the nature of change and assists others to transform even in the midst of the pain of change.
- Leads from a spiritual center that is evident from a strong devotional/prayer life and vigorous corporate worship skills.
- Leads with an evangelical spirit so that others make decisions to follow Jesus Christ, live justly, and minister with the poor.
- Possesses excellent health, vigor, and stamina.

Skills for Transformation:

- Able to articulate Wesleyan theology and Scripture, along with ability to articulate Annual Conference, Jurisdictional, and denominational vision in a manner to inspire people to work together to accomplish the vision.
- Leads effectively and sensitively to implement cohesive action among people of diverse racial, ethnic, and theological backgrounds.
- Builds bridges between diverse groups to enhance ministry.
- Leads with theological understanding those in administrative and management positions.
- Inspires commitment to vision utilizing strong written and oral communication skills.
- Develops leadership in others.

Experience:

- Demonstrate understanding of, and commitment to, the ministry of the laity, especially in daily living their faith.
- Demonstrates leadership that has had significant influence in the church and secular worlds, changing the way people and organizations operate and minister.
- Demonstrates power sharing rather than power hoarding in ways that have led to renewal and vitality in ministry.
- Demonstrates outstanding results in recruiting, employing, supervising, and developing lay and clergy staff/leadership.
- Demonstrates strong commitment to transforming the connectional system.