

## Biographical Information

- Name: William P. Thompson Sr.,** known to many as “Bill Thompson.” Graduate from the University of Baltimore with a degree in Psychology with an emphasis in business, Raised in West Philadelphia in a Methodist household with his two brothers and two sisters; Alfred (deceased), Lenora, Cheryl, and Kenneth, Bill is the middle child.
- Home Church:** Wharton-Wesley United Methodist Church, which is in the South District and located at 5341 Catharine Street, Philadelphia, PA, 19143.
- Employment/Appointment:** Owner, *Thompson Consulting Service*, specializing in serving the client’s business or personal need to become more efficient with their computer skills, such as Microsoft Excel, Word, PowerPoint, and Access. This is achieved with presentations, class instruction, and personal consultation for the novice, intermediate, and advanced level client since the year 2000. Bill is sought for his ability to present complex and challenging information in an easy-to-digest manner. Through his company, he has provided training to many well-known companies such as *The Philadelphia Corporation for Aging (PCA)*, *Jewish Employment Services (JEVS)*, *Orleans Technical College*, *Alex’s Lemonade*, *Congreso de Latinos Unidos*, *Mayor’s Office of Community Service (MOCS)*, *Manor College* and *Catholic Charities*.  
*Bill is well-recognized as a leading software trainer and presenter in Philadelphia and the surrounding counties for over 25 years.*
- Local Church Activities:** a) Active member of the Wharton-Wesley family for over 50 years, serving in many capacities. b) Member of Wharton-Wesley’s Board of Directors, c) President of the Wharton-Wesley chapter of the United Methodist Men, d) Launched & chaired Wharton-Wesley’s Grantsmanship Team, which successfully procured several grants to support our various church ministries. e) A technical advisor for Audio Sound Design, Video & Still Photography, f) State Senatorial Community liaison. **Previous ministries include,** a) the Boy Scouts of America under the leadership of Louis M. Stukes, (Bill later became a Scout Master) b) The Methodist Youth Fellowship (MYF) led by Miss Nan Fletcher, c) Junior Ushers, led by Mr. Brewington and d) Youth Choir led by Vernon Lathan, which began his lifelong affiliation with the local congregation of John Wesley. ***Bill accepted Christ as a teen and formally joined John Wesley UMC (later became Wharton-Wesley), in 1966 and remains a member to this day.***
- Annual Conference:** Within the Eastern PA Conference, Bill serves on several boards and committees; a) the Conference Committee on Episcopacy, b) District Council of Ministries (DCOM), c) Metro Ministries board, d) South Superintendency Committee and shares e) South District Co-Lay Leader responsibilities with Jennifer Lafferty. Bill & Jennifer led two very successful and well-attended trainings for Lay Members titled “Calling all Lay Leaders” to assist Lay leaders with Discernment, Laity Duties, Establishing Communication & Mission Links, Cultivating Relations, Silent Killers (ex: burnout, inability to delegate responsibilities, etc.,) & Effective usage of time, following with scheduled vignettes for learning.
- Community Service:** Wharton-Wesley’s liaison with the Fire House Activity Adult Center’s PA State-Sponsored Food Voucher Program & The Red Cross of Philadelphia; Boy Scouts of America (BSA), Brokered the agreement between Wharton-Wesley’s Property & Our Brothers Place Homeless Social Service Support, Making the Wharton-Wesley the first Church to have a partnership of this kind. Philadelphia Corporation for Aging’s (PCA) City-wide Presenter for Computer Fraud Prevention.
- Awards/Publications:** Created, photographed & produced an award-winning short film, *Revenge*, which was broadcasted by request, several times on WHY TV. Bill was a staff photographer for the Religion and Society sections of The Philadelphia Tribune, which is the oldest African American publication in the country; he was also a well-known Wedding Photographer. He is often seen with his camera as he voluntarily documents the Eastern PA Conference, local community, political, family, and Wharton Wesley church events. Bill enjoys providing instruction to anyone interested in experiencing the magic of photography.
- Family:** Bill married his wife, Carolyn, 28 years ago in the sanctuary of Wharton-Wesley. They are the parents of three adult children William P. Thompson, Jr., Andrew L. Thompson, Ashley D. Thompson, and grandson, Joele Tosson. All his children are active in his home church.
- Interest in Serving as Conference Lay Leader:** After much prayer, I am answering God's call to give my best effort to help the ministry required for conference leadership. To help lay members discover their duties as the laity, such as advocacy, model discipleship, leadership, and service to assist church council. To share proven techniques to enhance the use of lay people’s time and resources. To cultivate a team approach to ministry. I have established meaningful relationships with Laity and Clergy which will support lay initiatives. Be an advocate for the needs of the laity. Share my experience with how to motivate people. Prioritizing the well-being of lay members. Inspire more joy and fellowship within our congregations. Supporting the value of having youth in the church.
- Ability to Serve as Conference Lay Leader-Availability:** My schedule will allow me to plan, organize, attend, lead meetings and trainings as needed. I am able to travel.