

REPORTS

The Reports and Recommendations in this year's Journal reflect the postponement of the Annual Conference session caused by the coronavirus pandemic.

The Discipleship Council report and the BWC Going Out in Mission report from Connectional Ministries were delivered at the online Sept. 12, 2020, session of the Baltimore-Washington Conference. The reports from CFA, the Board of Pensions, and Commission on Equitable Compensation were also delivered at the Sept. 12 session.

However, the other committee and institutional reports reflect the state of ministries between June 2019 and March 2020.

Ministries

Leadership Development Board

The Leadership Development Board was approved at last year's Annual Conference to equip and mature leaders and nurture a culture through which call, competency and spiritual maturity work together to develop and equip vibrant lay and clergy leadership through the Baltimore-Washington Conference. The Leadership Development Board coordinates, supports and contributes to the crafting of all leadership efforts within the Conference.

During its first year the Board developed Training Tuesdays, where individuals and groups could attend, through Zoom technology, virtual classes on various advanced training in areas such as Staff-Parish Relations Committee, Trustees, Finance, Church Council, Nominations and a Unified Board session.

Training Tuesdays offered the opportunity to engage personally through Q&As, as well as on-line comments and sharing of information. The initial response has been overwhelming. Over 450 people had engaged in six Training Tuesdays offerings at the end of 2019. The sessions were recorded and are available on the Conference website under the Leadership and Congregational Development page for ease of access for all.

During the past year a different approach to District Leadership Days was developed. The annual district training day was renamed "Connect Leadership Summit" and the format was changed to provide intensive training tracks meant for continued leadership team and skills building. More than 700 people registered for the four regional classes; however, two of the regional events were forced to close because of the coronavirus.

The Leadership and Development Board is in the planning stages for a fall training opportunity which will be titled the Next Level Leadership Academy. The Next Level Leadership Academy will provide an even more intensive training environment for local church leaders. This program will establish cohorts that will continue to work together in team building and leadership skills to connect and support one another in local church leadership roles and beyond.

In partnership with Call and Clergy Care, the Board is planning to offer group training for clergy and CLMs in Orientation to Ministry, as well as clear and substantive information for clergy about CLM training. The Board is also discussing the processes needed to develop a technology-based application for those coming through ministry of the Feel Guide.

In partnership with Lay Servant Ministries we are looking at training materials already available to use as additional resources for clergy and laity.

Lastly, we are continuing to research and develop new and effective podcasts, webcasts and even audio book capabilities to bring additional and convenient training opportunities to clergy and laity.

Respectfully Submitted,
Pastor Nona Colbert, Chair

Board of Laity

The Ministry of the Laity is responsible for making Disciples of Jesus Christ to support the mission of the Baltimore Washington Conference. The Board continues its efforts to encourage the participation of all laypersons in broader areas and understanding life of the various ministries of the Conference.

The District Lay Leaders are actively engaged in and carrying out their missions. Richard Willson, Cumberland-Hagerstown District, and Kim Carr, Annapolis District, represented the group by attending the NEJ Association of Conference Lay Leaders in ValHalla, NY, along with myself.

The Conference Committee on Lay Servant Ministry continues to do exceedingly well under the leadership of Linda Flanagan. The Committee cares for the training of Lay Servants and Certified Lay Servant Ministers.

The main goal again for this year is to continue to train laity across the Conference. The 8 Districts hosted many classes that included various topics. There were four scheduled regional Leadership Days training sessions across the Conference. It is exciting to see how the Districts encourage young disciples to participate in the Lay Servant classes.

We continue to celebrate the appointment of one the District Lay Leaders (also a CLM), Rod Fry as pastor of two small churches: Ijamsville and Flint Hill UMC. He also has a thriving Motorcycle Ministry, reaching out to the secular community. His goal is to continue this ministry.

The Lay Leaders serve on many Local, District and Conference Boards and Committees, and often chairing them. Some of us were invited to speak at various churches to celebrate Annual Laity Sunday.

A continuing goal is to focus on encouraging youth and young adults to become more actively involved in the life of the church, e.g., UMW, UMM, attending Annual Conference.

Delores Martin
Conference Lay Leader

New Faith Expressions Board

Purpose: To equip and encourage change makers to gather new people in new places and spaces in order to bring the Church Jesus loves closer to the people Jesus loves.

2019 was a year of transition. I (Bill Brown) transitioned from being the Interim Director of New Faith Expressions to the full-time Director. I also transitioned from researching where we have been as an Annual Conference, in terms of Church planting, to developing a strategy for moving forward in faith.

Our goals for 2019 were rather straight forward;

1. Meet with each district superintendent to begin developing a priority list,
2. Develop a process of discernment for laity and clergy as to who may be called to start new faith expressions of church, and
3. Develop a strategy to move us forward as an Annual Conference.

Each of these goals have been met and inform our work for the coming years. Since this is a fairly new ministry area for our Annual Conference, it is difficult to measure impact, however I believe our strategy will have an impact moving forward.

Our strategy places an emphasis on training, specifically training lay people how to start new expressions of Church, understanding that the Methodist movement was strongest when the laity were empowered and entrusted with this type of work. We are also emphasizing training local churches how to get to know their communities and discover the best way to reach them with new expressions of Church. We believe these new expressions of Church will manifest themselves as micro-churches, strategic partnerships or Churches starting new things.

Goals:

As we look forward, this Board has developed four goals:

1. Launch four Micro-Church Trainings, one in each region.
2. Restructure current grant model and add new Micro-grants
3. In collaboration with Hispanic-Latino Ministries develop a strategy for Hispanic-Latino church plants
4. In partnership with Path 1, launch Lay Planter Training

Rev. Bill Brown, Director of New Faith Expressions
Deborah Johnson Chair of New Faith Expressions Board

Advocacy & Action Board

Purpose: We inspire and equip faith communities to develop disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world by collaborating with others to transform systems that disenfranchise, marginalize, and oppress. The Advocacy and Action Board is tasked with establishing a clear, consistent and impact-driven BWC presence on urgent policy matters at local, state, and national levels, and helps set Conference-wide justice priorities rooted in our Social Principles.

Responsibilities

- ☐ Develop, share, and implement a strategic plan for justice ministry throughout the conference that includes vision, values, goals, priorities, and execution strategies that is revised and re-evaluated annually.
- ☐ Coordinate, oversee, support, and contribute to the implementation of its vision through the work of social action teams, specialized committees, multicultural ministries, and forums
 - Social Action Teams:
 - Creation Care
 - Gender Equity (COSROW ¶644)
 - Gun Violence Prevention
 - Immigration Rights
 - LGBTQIA+ Justice
 - Racial Justice (CCORR ¶643)
 - Restorative Justice (R/CJAMM)
 - Wealth Equity
 - Multicultural Ministries
 - Committee on Hispanic/Latino Ministries (¶655)
 - Deaf Ministries
 - Grow Church through Ministries for Asian Americans
 - Native American Ministry (CONAM ¶654)
 - Strengthening the Black Church for the 21st Century
 - Specialized Committees
 - Commission on Disability Concerns (¶653)
 - Justice for Our Neighbors
 - Annual Forums
 - Small Membership Church
 - Ethnic Local Church Concerns
 - Christian Unity and Interreligious Relationships
 - Caucuses
 - Black Methodists for Church Renewal
 - Baltimore Washington Area Reconciling Ministries
 - Wesleyan Covenant Association
 - Action Coordination
 - Legislative Advocacy
 - Peace with Justice
- ☐ Comply with all requirements of the Book of Discipline related to Advocacy & Action (e.g. ¶629, ¶642, ¶643, and ¶644 and relevant parts of ¶632, ¶645, ¶653, ¶654, ¶655).
- ☐ Ensure that new initiatives are aligned with the vision and strategic plan for BWC's justice ministry.
- ☐ Organize needed training for local churches and leaders on community organizing, intercultural proficiency, and justice as a spiritual discipline to grow and multiply disciples.
- ☐ Coordinate with the Office of Leadership and Congregational Development/Leader Development Board to hold Annual Forums.
- ☐ Assess strategic ministry needs and troubleshoot key pressure points efficiently and effectively.
- ☐ Create and/or identify systems to track progress and maintain connection with Advocacy & Action servant leaders and other engaged persons.
- ☐ Ensure clear communication between all aspects of the Advocacy & Action network.
- ☐ Coordinate and communicate an external master calendar for all Advocacy & Action board-related programming throughout the conference.
- ☐ Meet at least quarterly and additionally as necessary, with meaningful and productive agendas that foster a calm, confident, and focused approach to each meeting.
- ☐ Establish and maintain workgroups, task forces, and/or subcommittees, chaired by Board members or designees, to ensure effective implementation of the strategic plan.

Team Composition

- ☐ Voting members with passion and commitment to justice and service to include:

- Chairs of each Advocacy and Action Social Action Team
- Annual forum leaders
- Individuals whose collective gifts span grant administration, project management, legislative advocacy, and data analysis and evaluation, selected by the Committee on Nominations

Tracy L. Collins, Chair

Wellness and Missions Board

Purpose: The purpose of the Wellness and Missions Board is to equip members, of the Baltimore-Washington Conference, to create and sustain programs and ministries that meet the needs of their local congregations and surrounding communities in the areas of HIV/AIDS outreach, early response following disasters, short-term mission trips, global and national missionary itineration, holistic health and domestic violence prevention.

The Wellness and Missions Board is responsible for crafting the vision of all health ministry and mission outreach work within the Conference.

In 2019, work with the Advance and Missionary Services continued. There was less coordination with missionaries as a result of difficulties securing visas. We pray there will be fewer challenges in the year ahead.

Early Response Teams (ERTs) were deployed to the North Carolina and New York Conferences to assist in flooding events. We also welcomed two new ERT trainers. Volunteers in Missions teams deployed throughout the BWC in response to recovery following natural disasters. Outside of the Conference, support was provided in Kentucky, North Carolina, the Caribbean, and Puerto Rico.

Support for the HIV/AIDS community continued through Quality of Life Retreats ministry; 61 men and women gathered for refuge, restoration and worship three times in 2019. Many participants this year were first-timers and we praise God for their presence.

Subject matter experts from across the United Methodist Connection delivered training, developed new curricula, and coordinated special events covering a host of health topics. The Wellness and Missions Board distributed more than \$30,000 to support these efforts.

In the year ahead, the Wellness and Missions Board will work to increase our capacity to equip more people in these areas by offering six ERT Trainings, by sponsoring five short term mission trips, by providing specialized training in response to identified holistic health needs of each District. Topics under development include AED operation, trauma-informed care, human sex trafficking, and suicide prevention.

A rise in facility usage fees in the DC area threatens the vitality of Quality of Life Retreats. In 2020, this Board endeavors to increase awareness of the HIV/AIDS ministry and work with local congregations, and other partners, to respond to the needs of this vulnerable population.

Rev. Heath Wilson, Chair

Quality of Life Retreats

Purpose: Spiritual Retreat offerings for people living with HIV/AIDS (PLWHA) in the regions of the Baltimore-Washington Conference of the United Methodist Church (BWCUMC)

Goals for 2019:

1. Provide three four-day retreats (two co-ed and one for women only).
2. Prioritize first-time retreat applicants for admission to each retreat.
3. Explore new partnerships and funding sources.

Impact in 2019:

1. Three retreats served 61 participants: 43 women and 18 men with average ages between 59 and 69 years old. Most participants were from underserved urban regions of the BWC.
2. Success in admitting a majority of first-time participants to each retreat.

3. Work continued on forming new partnerships and exploring funding sources.

Goals for 2020:

1. Provide two four-day retreats (both co-ed); reduction in number of retreats driven by significant price increases at retreat facilities.
2. Consultation with fundraising professional who has volunteered to help Quality of Life Retreats develop strategies to increase outreach to United Methodist congregations, enhance visibility within the BW Conference, and develop skills among retreat participants, volunteers, and Board members for personal visits and informational presentations to local congregations, civic groups, seminaries, etc.
3. Continue to explore alternative retreat sites and to prioritize first-time retreat applicants for admission to each retreat.

Respectfully submitted,
Raymond Shattuck, Board Chairperson
Ella Curry, Secretary

Young People's Ministry Board

Purpose: To activate, connect, and engage more young people as disciples of Jesus for the transformation of lives, churches, and communities.

The YPM Board celebrates that they met or exceeded the majority of the yearly benchmarks set to help achieve the nine goals established as part of their three-year strategic plan. Benchmarks achieved or surpassed in 2019:

- ☐ Surpassed the benchmark to engage over 200 college students through BWC connected ministries on at least six different campuses by engaging at least 280 students and adding Anne Arundel Community College and Gallaudet University as BWC connected campus ministries.
- ☐ Launched two experiments in empowering young adults in leadership through the University of Maryland Terp HUB and Young Adult Leaders Mastermind Group.
- ☐ More than 450 youth participated in some type of leadership training, far above the benchmark number of 60.
- ☐ More than 420 youth leaders participated in leadership training, far above the benchmark number of 75.
- ☐ Two young adult-led innovative initiatives (Coop's Soups and Church Mind & Matter) were launched in 2019.
- ☐ Determined 2,974 as a baseline number for how many youth and young adults participated in regional, district, conference or denomination-sponsored events in 2018.

2020 Goals:

- ☐ Engage 350 college students through BWC connected ministries on at least nine different campuses.
- ☐ Launch four new experiments in empowering young adults in leadership.
- ☐ At least 450 students participate in leadership training.
- ☐ 150 youth leaders participate in one leadership training event sponsored or referred by the conference.
- ☐ Launch at least five young adult initiatives by December 2020 and create a project plan and timeline for implementing a comprehensive process for innovations in Young People's Ministry.
- ☐ 15 churches have increased the number of youth engaged in their churches to a new level of participation.
- ☐ In collaboration with the Commission on Disability Ministry, all churches in the conference have been invited to complete a special-needs readiness assessment, and at least 75% of churches have completed it.
- ☐ In collaboration with the Wellness and Missions Board, a game plan has been drafted for supporting the mental health of youth and young adults throughout the conference and providing resources to churches to help youth leaders at local churches address mental health issues, like anxiety, depression, and suicide, with their youth.

In addition to these 2019 benchmarks and 2020 goals, the YPM board will continue to focus on creating a culture of ministry across the BWC where young people are the agents of ministry and not just recipients of ministry.

Shemaiah Strickland, Chair
Cheryl Cook, Staff Representative

Committee on Hispanic-Latino Committee

The purpose of this committee is to “support the development, implementation, and evaluation of a Hispanic-Latino comprehensive plan of action and the strategies for working with Hispanic-Latino persons of all generations in the community (BOD 2016, ¶655).”

Goal: To identify, equip, and engage leaders to build relationships and do justice with Hispanic-Latinos in their community so that more first- and second-generation Hispanic-Latinos can love God and their neighbor.

Impact:

- Hispanic-Latino Ministries Annual Camp. About 166 people participated in the retreat, with great participation of young adults, youth, and children. The theme was “United in Christ.”
- Seventeen students received their missionary certification at the 2019 annual conference. These leaders are working with their pastors to expand the vision of their local church and bringing change to the lives of their neighbors.
- We supported the creation of the Hispanic Youth Leadership Academy (HYLA) in DC at Wesley Theological Seminary which took place in July 2019.
- Immigration Border Trip in October 2019. Twenty people participated (youth and young adults) as well as pastors and laity. Out of this project, there were five outcomes:
 - Out of the twenty trip participants, fifteen are now members of the BWC Immigration Task Force;
 - Migration Sunday resource created by participants;
 - One young adult who participated in the Immigration Border Immersion went back to volunteer at the border at the end of January. This same young adult is now supporting the youth group of Salem Hispanic UMC, a church with a large undocumented immigrant community;
 - Two participants are now connected to the Board of Child Care who has a program for unaccompanied minors in our region;
 - The group has raised more than \$5,000 to support the John 3:65 Dining Room, a program of the Methodist Church in Mexico.

Goals For 2019:

- Connectional Commitment: Increase participation at MARCHA and HYLA
- Education and Advocacy: Continue the Border Immersions. The 2020 emphasis will be on Immigration and Environmental Justice
- Faithful Discipleship: Continue the lay leadership school with a focus on theology and liturgy. Also, the creation of a new curriculum on Christian education

Giovanni Arroyo, Chair of the HLM Committee
Emma A Escobar, Coordinator of Hispanic-Latino Ministries

Commission on Archives and History / United Methodist Historical Society and the Strawbridge Shrine Association

Three hundred years ago, this year, young John Wesley entered Christ Church College, Oxford University. He was destined, it seemed, to complete seminary and return to Epworth, Lincolnshire, to succeed his father in the pulpit of St. Andrew’s Church. Five years later he would indeed be ordained and serving as his father’s assistant, but ten years later he would be back at Oxford and, with his brother Charles, organizing a “Holy Club,” which their fellow students would derisively christen “Methodist.”

History had not unfolded as might have been expected. When his father died in 1735, John Wesley would prepare to take on a parish pastorate, but not Epworth, instead Savannah, in the American colony of Georgia. That wouldn’t work out as he hoped, and he would leave feeling broken and beaten. Then, in a meeting of the Moravian Brethren who he had met on his journey, he would find his “heart strangely warmed”, and gain the strength to renew his mission and ministry. The rest is history. It is, in fact, our history and, in a time of turmoil, we are reminded that our history has seldom unfolded as expected.

Our mission is to remember the unfolding of that history. The deep history of people now called United Methodists in this Baltimore-Washington area offers rare resources that may allow us to tell the story of our faith in a new way. Our United Methodist Pilgrimage Taskforce believes that engagement with the hard issues encountered by

Discipleship Council Report

The Discipleship Council: (a) functions, as necessary, on behalf of the Annual Conference in between sessions; (b) ensures that Conference resources align to our vision, mission, and critical issues; and (c) discerns, develops, reviews, and evaluates the strategic direction of the Conference toward its vision and goals. It coordinates and consults with the Conference Council on Finance and Administration regarding the annual budget.

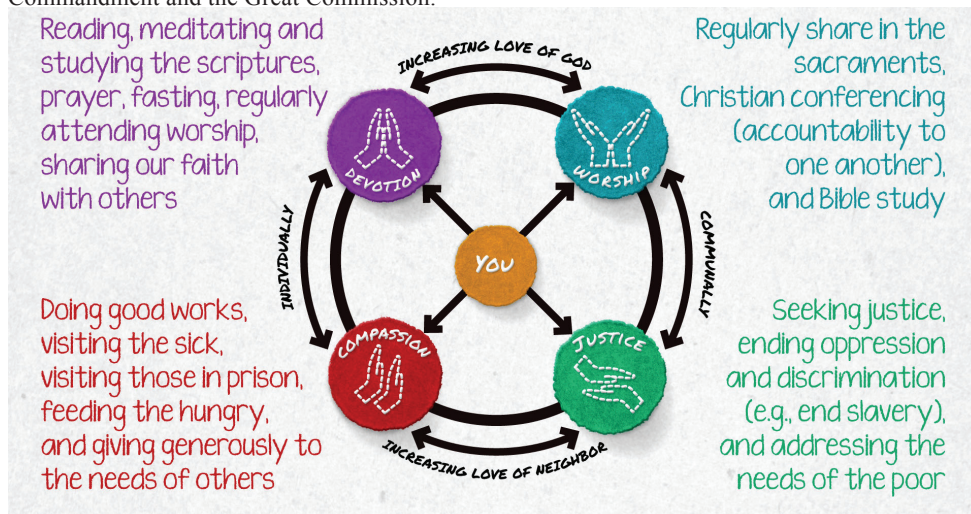
As we began our ministry year, we centered our work around the mission and vision of the Annual Conference, the BWC inspires and equips local faith communities to develop disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world so that more transformed lives transform lives. Deepening discipleship is at the heart of everything we do — leader development, new faith expressions, young people’s ministry, advocacy & action and wellness & missions — all undergird this.

We accomplished the following:

1. Celebrate the achievements of our new Discipleship Agencies represented by the following boards: Leader Development, New Faith Expressions, Young People’s Ministry, Advocacy & Action, Wellness & Missions). Details progress towards their goals may be found immediately following this report.
2. Identify, develop and implement meaningful, shared metrics regarding ministry effectiveness. We began a multipronged approach to discern the most meaningful ways to measure ministry effectiveness starting with the number of people who are engaged and maturing in Wesleyan Discipleship as well as the impact being made in communities in which our churches and ministries reside. Through the development and implementation of a shared metrics systems we seek to reclaim the core aspects of Wesleyan Discipleship.

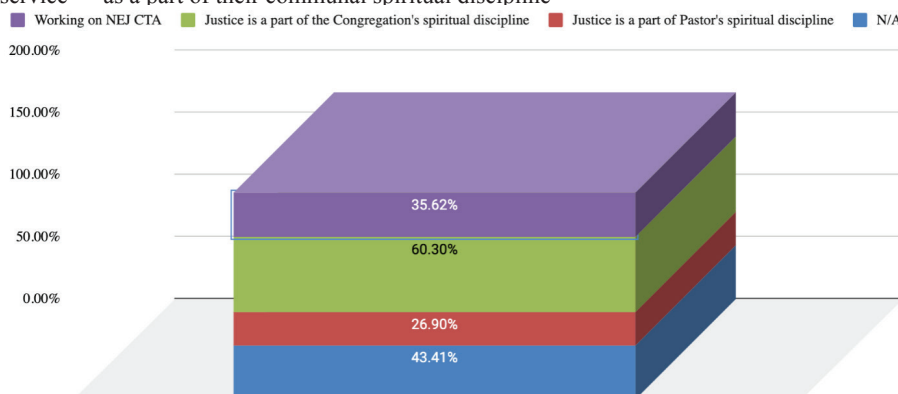
Wesley and the early Methodists were particularly concerned about inviting people to experience God’s grace and to grow in their knowledge and love of God through disciplined Christian living. They placed primary emphasis on Christian living, on putting faith and love into action. This emphasis on what Wesley referred to as “practical divinity” has continued to be a hallmark of United Methodism today. As United Methodists, we unite as disciples engaged in “witness[ing] to Jesus Christ in the world and following His teachings through acts of compassion, justice, worship, and devotion under the guidance of the Holy Spirit.” (The General Rule of Discipleship, ¶ 1117.2a)

John Wesley taught that God’s grace is unearned and that we were not to be idle waiting to experience grace, but we are to engage in the means of grace. The means of grace are ways God works invisibly in disciples, hastening, strengthening; and confirming faith so that God’s grace pervades in and through disciples. As we look at the means of grace today, they can be divided into works of piety (worship and devotion) and the works of mercy (compassion and justice). All together these encompass the Great Commandment and the Great Commission.



Therefore, our discernment process led us to the following impact factors that determine ministry effectiveness:

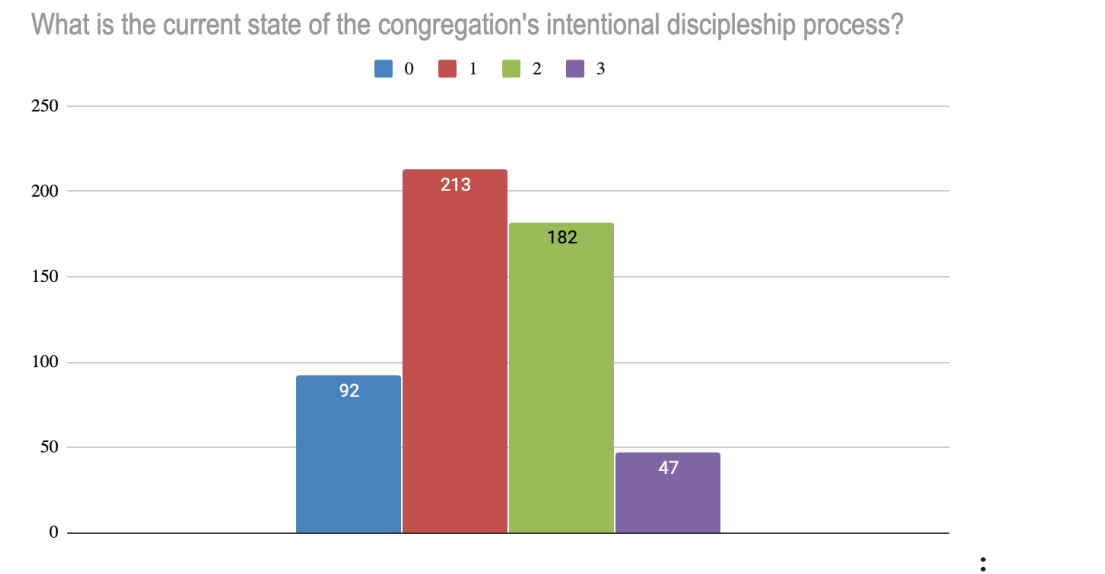
- a. NEW connections in church and community. This includes new relationships, new participation, new pathways to discipleship
 - b. Synergy – this includes ministries that are replicable and sustainable and have a healthy balance between input and output.
 - c. Ministries are connected to maturing in Wesleyan discipleship. This relates to the ministry’s “why.”
 - d. Lead to transformative experiences
3. Developed a “pilot” Transformed Lives, Transform Lives survey that we hope helps measure maturation in Wesleyan discipleship in the areas of Devotion, Worship, Compassion and Justice. The purpose of the survey is to measure whether or not BWC churches and ministries are making progress on the mission (making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world). This pilot survey will also help us to determine whether measuring transformation in our holistic understanding of Wesleyan discipleship is helpful to individuals and ministries at the local church as the annual conference needs to measure whether or not we are being effective in our mission of inspiring and equipping local faith communities for their mission. The survey format includes open-ended questions that identify growth/transformation in the four areas of Wesleyan Discipleship. We believe the open-ended format will be more inviting to respondents and it also reflects our theology of Christian perfection. Process of discipleship is intentional and ongoing through our lives.
 4. Began gathering data about pathways to maturing discipleship. We accomplished this through additional questions in the Pastors’ reports during the 2019 Charge Conference season. Pastors were asked to respond to questions about their church’s engagement in justice and specifically, the NEJ CTA on racial justice. Pastors were also asked to respond to questions regarding the congregation’s process for intentional discipleship and how they measure impact. As we reviewed the data gathered from those reports, we celebrate the fact that in the area of justice:
 - a. More than 1/3 of pastors reported concrete congregational engagement with the NEJ Call to Action
 - b. 60% of our congregations practice justice — not just compassionate service — as a part of their communal spiritual discipline



Note: The reason this adds up to more than 100% is that some answers described multiple categories.

Additionally, in the area of intentional discipleship practices among congregations we celebrate the number of persons reporting that congregations are:

- a. talking about implementing an intentional discipleship process (213)
- b. working on implementing an intentional discipleship process (182)
- c. identified as able to serve as a teaching congregation to develop and use an intentional discipleship process. (47)



KEY0=We are not able to talk about developing an intentional discipleship process as there are many other urgent matters

1=We are talking about implementing an intentional discipleship process

2=We are working on implementing an intentional discipleship process

3=We could serve as a teaching congregation on how to develop and use an intentional discipleship process

Lastly, in the area of congregations’ process for measuring impact, the responses affirmed that congregations are open to learning how to measure impact better; and that many recognize that participation numbers don’t tell the whole story and sometimes are inadequate. This is vital information that we can use as we continue to refine the development of a process for measuring outcomes.

We are grateful for all of the pastors who took time to respond to these questions and all the information obtained is worthy of celebration because it affirms for us that in the midst of uncertain and challenging times within the life of our denomination, congregations within our annual conference are remaining focused on one the core tenets of our faith – Wesleyan discipleship.

- Developed, approved and published a statement of support in response to the Protocol for Reconciliation and Grace through Separation. We affirm and support the deliberate and thoughtful process that undergirded this agreement; and we also support the Protocol’s call to hold in abeyance any charges related to LGBTQIA+ clergypersons or those performing same sex weddings and the deep spiritual work needed of prayer, fasting and study. The link to our full statement can be found at <https://www.bwcumc.org/news-and-views/discipleship-council-supports-protocol/>
- Two resolutions were referred to Discipleship Council at 2019 AC: Resolution 15 (Resolution to Do No Harm through Marriage Prohibitions) and Resolution 18 (Resolution to Create a LGBTQIA+ Mission of the BWC). In our time of discernment and deliberation, DC determined that no further action was needed on these resolutions because the protocol addressed the underlying concerns.
- We continue to celebrate the work of Project Transformation, our first ministry partnership through MROC. Their second summer was 2019 where 65 children participated in the program (located at Hughes Memorial and Brighter Day Ministries). Of the children that participated: 81% improved their reading level and 16% maintained their reading level. Additionally, of the 11 young adults that were engaged in service with PT DC: 80% reported having a life changing experiencing. We thank God for the 250 volunteers that helped to support this ministry effort. We also applaud the potential expansion of this ministry model – in collaboration with pastors and congregations of the Baltimore-Metropolitan district -- in Baltimore City during the summer of 2020!

In the coming year we seek to:

- c. Provide support to the annual conference in addressing any critical issues that arise in a manner consistent with our foundational doctrinal standards and the fact that we are one in Christ Jesus.
- d. Continue to measure progress toward Discipleship Agency goals which are essential to the mission of inspiring and equipping local faith communities to make disciples of Jesus Christ.
- e. Continue to support the NEJ CTA goals. One specific step toward fulfilling that goal is that our Fall 2020 CT meeting will include a training for all AC leaders in intercultural competency. This will equip all those who are leading ministry teams/areas with the necessary understanding and tools to ensure full inclusivity within their ministry areas.
- f. Continue to crystalize our system for measuring ministry effectiveness at the local faith community level. One next step in this area is to convene a group of churches (pastor + lay person) who identified their congregations as potential teaching congregations for intentional discipleship to develop some shared, meaningful conference metrics/approaches to measuring missional impact. We will engage relevant persons into conversation about equipping these churches to train/coach other congregations in developing an intentional discipleship process. We anticipate this could take the form of a pilot study that would match teaching congregations with congregations that are ready to engage in creating intentional discipleship pathways.

Submitted By: Rev. Jessica Hayden, Discipleship Council Chair, and Christie Latona, Director of Connectional Ministries:

Rules Committee

Purpose: review the rules of the session, review and update all references to the Book of Discipline, review any resolutions that propose to amend the Rules of the Session, and prepare amendments to the Rules of the Session.

Goals:

1. Update Rules following Annual Conference 2019
2. Prepare for Annual Conference 2020

Impact:

1. We have submitted two resolutions pertaining to the Rules for Annual Conference 2020.

This year: We are continuing to get ready for the upcoming Annual Conference as well as for a possible called special session and will develop an agenda for the rest of the year in response to Annual Conference 2020.

Rev. Mark Gorman, Chair

BWC Out in Mission

The following report was shared as a video by Connectional Ministries Director Christie Latona at the Sept. 12 Annual Conference Session.

When John the Baptist was in prison and wanted to know whether Jesus was actually the long-awaited Messiah, he sent word asking, “‘Are you the one who is to come, or should we expect someone else?’” (Matthew 11:2)

In many ways, the layers of health and justice pandemics over the past 6 months and prior have challenged us to answer the question: “Are you the church, or shall we expect someone else?” Just as Jesus sent word back to John, the people of the Baltimore-Washington Conference have lived a hearty response in this challenging season, “The hungry have been fed, the fallen have been encouraged, the sick have recovered, disciples have been made and reclaimed, and Christ has been present and glorified in homes, on street corners, in parking lots, and through peaceful, prophetic prayer and protest. Christ is the ONE who makes us ONE and enables us to go out in mission no matter what!”

The inhumane treatment of George Floyd, Brionna Taylor, Ahmaud Arbery, Jacob Blake and too many more at the hands of police and vigilantes brought us to our knees and demanded even bolder action. From peaceful,

prayerful protest to commitments to becoming an anti-racist church to monthly preaching and teaching on the gospel messages of all served as a wake-up call and created renewed focus on addressing white supremacy and oppression, and ministries of racial justice were strengthened throughout the Baltimore-Washington Conference.

The Baltimore Metro district went out in mission together in an immersion prayer and action walk from Lovely Lane to St. Matthews to witness and learn of the differences in lived experience. Many churches participated in See Something, Say Something and the community noticed as people honked in support as they drove by and thanked us for being out in mission.

Congregations from across the conference are being good neighbors. At Tom's Creek UMC in Emmitsburg, this includes delivering fresh homemade bread to those homebound and those on front lines like nurses and first responders; delivering bouquets of fresh cut flowers to shut ins and those they have not seen; delivering 2600 meals to people in need and those that cannot get out and providing 60 backpacks for children as the school year begins.

The Mission Central Parish (made up of 7 churches) has raised \$6,500 to date for shoes for kids and distributed \$12,000 worth of food to families getting ready for school. The Parish vision is that mission-focused ministry grows disciples for Jesus and empowers churches of all sizes while working together for the greater good. These churches, plus others in the Baltimore Suburban District, are dreaming and working towards eliminating lunch debt.

From Father's Day until a week before school starts, United Methodists in Cumberland join with community partners and other denominations to deliver and serve 800 meals a day for school-aged kids in parks and other public spaces. 10 out of 14 United Methodist churches in town provide the person power to make lunches and pack and deliver coolers around town. It is a lifeline for a lot of elementary age children in the area, and is a vibrant example of meeting community needs together.

During the dual pandemics, churches in the Washington East district started collaborating to worship, feed, study and serve communion together. People -- lay and clergy -- are coming together across racial lines of difference to talk, rally and march together. Fostering relationships is at the heart of going out in mission together.

At Ager Road UMC, leaders of the Greater Washington District invested in rebuilding and renovating the church parsonage to provide affordable housing to a local family. This ongoing commitment to leveraging church properties to provide just housing is done in loving memory of the Rev. Adrienne Terry.

Annapolis church leaders gathered at two district events in January and February to reimagine ministry and to see where God was forming some common ground. From projects focused on connecting with young people to partnerships with seniors and mental health facilities to cooperative parish ministries, leaders prepared themselves to build, test, measure and pivot where needed so that more transformed lives transform lives.

When we go out in ministry as a part of our connectional system, legacies are possible that outlive any single congregation. In Central Maryland that happened when Rockland UMC which closed last year, had their church property given to Bethany Korean UMC, a newer congregation which reaches a growing Korean population in the area.

Responding to the desperate needs of immigrants at the Mexican border, the conference sponsored an immersion trip of discovery and outreach for young people, that focused on the intersection of race and immigration and awakened new understanding and support of life-giving ministries.

This year, in which United Methodists set out into the unknown it is clear that -- in the midst of it all -- transformed lives STILL transform lives. Thanks be to God!

Discipleship Council

September 12, 2020

Greetings! My name is Jessica Hayden, chairperson of Discipleship Council. We are grateful for the energy and faithfulness of our ministry team that allowed us to have an impactful year. As all of us have learned during the dual pandemics, rooting ourselves in purpose and mission is essential, both in the local church and the conference, as we all made necessary pivots.

As we began our ministry year, we centered our work around the mission and vision of the Annual Conference, the Baltimore-Washington Conference inspires and equips local faith communities to develop disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world so that more transformed lives transform lives. Deepening discipleship is at the heart of everything we do—leader development, new faith expressions, young people’s ministry, advocacy & action and wellness & missions—all undergird this.

This centering work is important for us so that we can fulfill our responsibility to ensure that Conference resources align to its vision, mission, and critical issues; as we discern, develop, review, and evaluate the strategic direction of the Conference toward its vision and goals

One of our primary goals for the year (pre-COVID) was to identify, develop and implement meaningful, shared metrics regarding Conference ministry effectiveness.

We began a multi-pronged approach to discern the most meaningful ways to measure the number of people who are engaged and maturing in Wesleyan Discipleship as well as the impact being made in communities in which our churches and ministries reside.

We began with discussing what effective metrics would include. We responded to the question, “How do we know world transforming discipling is working?” Or “how do we determine ministry effectiveness. We know it’s working when:

- NEW connections in church and community. This includes new relationships, new participations, new pathways to discipleship
- Synergy – this includes ministries that are replicable and sustainable and have a healthy balance between input and output.
- Ministries are connected to maturing in Wesleyan discipleship. This relates to the ministry’s “why”.
- Lead to transformative experiences

As a reminder, here is the Wesleyan discipleship we are reclaiming

As United Methodists, we unite as disciples engaged in witnessing to Jesus Christ in the world and following His teachings through acts of compassion, justice, worship, and devotion under the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

This is rooted in the Great Commandment as we seek to increase in our love of God (through acts of devotion and worship) and increase in our love of neighbor (through acts of compassion and justice) both personally and communally.

Our action and participation is required in order for this not to be a theoretical exercise.

As you and I follow Jesus through engaging in acts of devotion, worship, compassion and justice under the guidance of the Holy Spirit we grow as well-rounded disciples.

The words that surround this Wesleyan Rule of Discipleship are the means of grace. John Wesley taught that God’s grace is unearned and that we are not to be idle waiting to experience grace. We are to engage in the means of grace. This is not an exhaustive list or a list of “to do’s.” The means of grace are ways God works invisibly in disciples, hastening, strengthening, and confirming faith so that God’s grace pervades in and through disciples.

Amidst this pandemic we are learning that practicing the means of grace is not dependent upon our ability to gather for in person worship. Virtual spaces have become spaces for worship, prayer, studying of scriptures.

Ministries of compassion continue to occur as individuals and churches respond to the physical, social and spiritual needs of their neighbors. We have also witnessed the reclaiming of the discipline of justice as individuals and churches have led and participated in marches and protests that call out the sin of racism and work to dismantle it.

We continue to reclaim our Wesleyan discipleship even as we respond to the changing ministry and social landscape.

During the 2019 Church Conference season we began gathering data about pathways to maturing disciples through additional questions in the Pastors' reports. Pastors were asked to respond to questions about their church's engagement in justice and specifically, the NEJ Call To Action on racial justice. Pastors were also asked to respond to questions regarding the congregation's process for intentional discipleship and how they measure impact.

As we reviewed the data gathered from those reports we CELEBRATE the fact that
 -More than 1/3 of pastors reported concrete congregational engagement with the NEJ Call to Action
 -60% of our congregations practice acts of justice—not just compassionate service—as a part of their communal spiritual disciplines

The reason this adds up to more than 100% is that some written answers described multiple categories

We celebrate the number of people reporting that congregations are:
 talking about
 implementing an intentional discipleship process (213)
 working on implementing an intentional discipleship process (182)
 identified as able to serve as a teaching congregation to develop and use an intentional discipleship process. (47)

We celebrate this information as it affirms for us that in the midst of uncertain and challenging times -- which at that point in time involved denominational stress--congregations within our annual conference are remaining focused on one the core tenets of our faith: discipleship.

We celebrate that congregations are open to learning how to measure impact better—that many recognize that participation numbers don't tell the whole story and sometimes are inadequate.

All of the data gathered from the Pastor's Reports and from the Discipleships Board Reports inform our approach to the 2020 Goals. We continue to measure progress on board goals which are essential to the mission of inspiring and equipping local faith communities to make disciples of Jesus Christ.

Continue to support the NEJ CTA goals. The BaltimoreWashington Conference's (BWC) approach to the NEJ Call to Action (CTA):

- Is rooted in building relationships and creating a culture that allows all persons and cultures to feel safe in having bold conversations and confronting racism;
- Embeds cultural competency and antibias work throughout BWC's existing networks, trainings and gatherings;
Uplifts what is happening at the grassroots level;
- Invites faith communities to engage in conversations and experiences that help them take the next faithful step toward becoming racial justice change agents;
- Optimizes existing opportunities to include training and conversations; and
- Incorporates better assessment and accountability into our systems so that racism is dismantled and multiculturalism enabled.
- We have been making reports on progress Annually to the Northeastern Jurisdiction's Vision Table, Multi-Ethnic Center and Episcopacy Committee. And we have posted those on our NEJ Call to Action webpage.

As a continuation of the NEJ Call to Action for Racial Justice, the Discipleship Council developed the Commitment to Becoming an Anti-Racist Church invitation.

Being anti-racist is believing that racism is everyone's problem and understanding that we all have a role in

stopping it. That being said, being anti-racist is a different journey for White people than for Black people and other people of color. No one is born racist or anti-racist; these result from the choices we make.

Making a commitment to become anti-racist is rooted in our Christian discipleship. As we see embodied in the person and ministry of Jesus Christ who proclaimed good news to the poor, freedom for the prisoners, recovery of sight for the blind and that the oppressed be freed, as Christ-followers, we must choose to be anti-racist both individually and collectively.

As we commit to transform our lives, our churches and our society, we acknowledge we each enter this work in different places. Just as the process of intentional discipleship will develop contextually based on the culture, dynamics and needs within each local church; a pathway toward becoming an anti-racist church is also a contextual process that involves meeting people where there are and providing them the resources, grace and accountability to take the next faithful step toward becoming an anti-racist, both individually and collectively.

The expectation is not that a pathway toward becoming an anti-racist church looks the same among congregations. Instead, the expectation is that congregations within the BWC would make a commitment to be on a path. The Commitment to Becoming an Anti-Racist Church offers a shared framework. And we celebrate the more than 300 disciples and 144 churches and church-related institutions within the BWC who have already indicated that they are on this pathway.

Working together, we strive to achieve the following goals:

Increase by at least 10% per year the number of churches who are on a pathway to becoming an anti-racist church so that by 2022 all of our BWC churches are on a path toward becoming racial justice change agents.

Each local church reports on its progress as related to the NEJ Call to Action on Racial Justice and on its internal and external conversations annually at church/charge conference with 10% more churches engaged than the year before so that by 2026 100% of our churches are doing work to grow in our Inter-cultural Competence Covenant (traits of beloved community) throughout the conference.

Therefore we invite you to pray about how God is calling you and your church to be engaged in dismantling racism not for a moment but for a lifetime. As a continuation of the NEJ Call to Action for Racial Justice, we are asking individuals and churches to pledge their Commitment to Becoming an Anti-Racist Church by signing their name to the document that may be found on the conference's racial justice resource page at bwcumc.org/justicenow.

There are two frequently asked questions by those that are considering signing the commitment: "Are individuals or churches supposed to sign?" and "What happens once we do?"

Whether you are one person who is working to move your church toward becoming an anti-racist church or if your church leadership or church as a whole has made the commitment, please sign the commitment. In order to understand the magnitude of commitment, we are asking that each person in your church who has been a part of the decision making process and/or have made a personal commitment, to sign the form.

Your digital signature — along with your church's name, city, and state — will become a part of this movement to make different choices about how you are participating in the dismantling of racism. All BWC congregations will be asked to report on progress on the NEJ Call to Action at their Church Conference in the fall of 2020 and thereafter. While all churches have access to our vast online resources (bwcumc.org/justicenow), those churches who have made the commitment to do this sacred work will be given priority for consultation and cohort formation if desired. There are monthly check-ins for support, encouragement, resourcing and more.

Together we will seek justice, do the work and end racism as disciples of Jesus Christ.

Finally, our third 2020 goal is to continue crystalizing our system for understanding ministry vitality.

We celebrate the effective ministry that is taking place within our local churches before and in the midst of the pandemic. The more we learn about and understand the forms of ministry that are most effective in our varying

contexts, the more lives are transformed. The BWC represents diverse and vibrant expression of God's kingdom and there is no one-size model fits all for effective ministry. We want to know what is working well and where pastors or congregations need support so that we can share in the work of making disciples for Christ.

One next step will occur this fall during church/charge conference season. This year's church profile includes elements from last year's Pastor's report and are directly related to the Discipleship Council's work.

Specifically, churches will be invited to provide information on:

- How church members are engaged in Wesleyan Discipleship through rating their participation in WITNESS, COMPASSION JUSTICE, WORSHIP AND DEVOTION
- Defining the current state of the congregation's discipleship process?
- Describing the congregation's current level of vitality
- Identifying where the congregation is on the pathway of becoming an anti-racist church.

As we continue to develop and refine this system of understanding, we will strengthen our ability to inspire and equip local faith communities to better develop disciples for the transformation of the world so that more transformed lives transform lives.

BWC Commits to Becoming Anti-racist Annual Conference

As a continuation of the [NEJ Call to Action for Racial Justice](#), Baltimore-Washington Conference leaders are asking churches to pledge their Commitment to Becoming an Antiracist. Together, we will seek justice, do the work, and end racism as disciples of Jesus Christ. The following information is posted on the BWC website at <https://www.bwcumc.org/ministries/advocacy-action/racial-justice/commit-to-becoming-an-antiracist-church/>, which also contains a link for churches and individuals to sign their commitment.

As people of God, we lament and confess the sin of racism and we commit to work without ceasing, led by the Spirit of God, to resist and deconstruct racism wherever it exists. Our hearts have been broken by the recent deaths of Ahmaud Arbery, Breonna Taylor, George Floyd, and Rayshard Brooks; and we know that their killings are among too many children of God whose lives have been ended as a result of the dehumanization and devaluation of Black lives. We lament the deaths of all impacted by this sin and violence that has plagued our beloved country for far too long. We mourn with all who have seen loved ones taken from them, have experienced racial violence, and those who've lived with the pain and trauma of ignored, rationalized and/or justified interpersonal, institutional, and structural racism.

According to Ibram X. Kendi and others, there are no non-racists. There are only anti-racists — those who challenge racist ideas (policies) wherever they encounter them (including within themselves) — and racists — those who support racist ideas (policies) through their actions or inaction. Being anti-racist is believing that racism is everyone's problem and understanding that we all have a role in stopping it. That being said, being anti-racist is different for White people than for people of color. No one is born racist or anti-racist; these result from the choices we make.

As we see embodied in the person and ministry of Jesus Christ, who proclaimed good news to the poor, freedom for the prisoners, recovery of sight for the blind and that the oppressed be freed, as Christ-followers, we must choose to be anti-racist both individually and collectively.

In order to become an antiracist church, we believe that White people must acknowledge and confess their participation in systems of racism and White privilege. Just as we approach God in a spirit of confession in our worship, we believe that the transforming love of Jesus Christ is most fully experienced when we begin from a place of humility and acknowledge our sins both known and unknown. We believe in the power of repentance, forgiveness, and reconciliation offered in Jesus Christ to transform individual hearts and social systems. It takes commitment to walk together in this sacred, yet difficult, work.

As we commit to transform our lives, our churches, and our society, we acknowledge that we each enter this work in different places. We acknowledge that some people have been fighting for human rights for a significant amount of time, some people have actively engaged in the [NEJ Call to Action for Racial Justice](#), and some don't want to engage in this conversation at all. We acknowledge that no matter what we put in this document, it will not be

enough for some and far too much for others. The chasm of experience between being a White person and a Black person in America must be crossed. This bridge requires not only faith in God, but enough faith in one another to begin the journey of healing and hope.

We know that all people are sacred and worthy. We are made equal by God, who created humanity in God's own image. Out of our deep love of God and neighbor, when we see people being treated as less than equal, we will speak out.

Therefore, we invite you to pray about how God is calling you and your church to be engaged in dismantling racism, not for a moment, but for a lifetime. As a continuation of the [NEJ Call to Action for Racial Justice](#), we are asking churches to pledge their Commitment to Becoming an Antiracist Church by signing below. Together, we will seek justice, do the work, and end racism as disciples of Jesus Christ.



DISCIPLES SEEK JUSTICE

Our mission is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. Our shared history includes a primary emphasis on Christian living, on putting faith and love into action.

Live: Our church commits to include the spiritual discipline of justice as a part of our understanding of discipleship and congregational vitality. John Wesley's Rule of Discipleship needs to be understood and resurrected today: *"(T)o witness to Jesus Christ in the world and to follow His teachings through acts of compassion, justice, worship, and devotion under the guidance of the Holy Spirit."*

Resist: Our church will regularly uplift our shared [baptismal vows](#) to encourage believers to a) repent of the sin of racism; b) resist evil, injustice, and oppression as it relates to racism; so that, c) we might be able to live into the vow to be in union with people of all ages, nations, and races.

Organize: Our church commits to directly engage with our local leaders and officials to work toward ending racism, poverty, and violence based upon the liberating Gospel of Jesus Christ, our United Methodist Social Principles, and Book of Resolutions. Specifically:

- ☐ [Resolution 5031](#): Humanizing Criminal Justice;
- ☐ [Resolution 3378](#): Racism and Economic Injustice Against People of Color in the US;
- ☐ [Resolution 3422](#) Speaking Out for Compassion: Transforming the Context of Hate in the United States;
- ☐ [Resolution 3371](#): A Charter for Racial Justice in an Interdependent Global Community;
- ☐ [Resolution 3376](#): White Privilege in the United States.



DISCIPLES DO THE WORK necessary that results in naming and addressing racism when they witness it and working toward becoming a [level 4 racial justice change agent](#). Each church's leadership needs to engage in doing the work.

Listen: We will build relationships across lines of difference as we listen deeply and get to know someone who doesn't look, think, or act like us. [Download this resource sheet](#) for help. Listen to the pain, experience, hopes, and shared humanity and consider how you might be an agent of love and healing. Pray for what God is calling you to do as a result.

Learn: Our leaders will educate themselves on [how to have conversations about race](#). This resource from the National Museum of African-American Culture and History includes the following topics: [Bias](#), [Being Antiracist](#), [Community Building](#), [Self-Care](#), [Race and Racial Identity](#), [Social Identities and Systems of Oppression](#), [Whiteness](#), [Historical Foundations of Race](#).

Lead: Our leaders, once they know better, do better by exposing and eradicating racist stereotypes, naming microaggressions, and speaking up. They will help others learn how to have conversations about race and use their power to talk about racial justice in worship, small groups and service ministries; include more voices at the table; and create more equity.



is

DISCIPLES END RACISM because racism is a sin. Our church acknowledges that perfect love casts out fear and will persist in the work of ending racism. We will seek to love all people as Jesus loves, whatever their racial and ethnic heritage, and work together to restore the broken body of Christ. These deep wounds can be healed but the healing process delicate and will require humble involvement from those who have previously remained silent.

Truth: Our church will discover and tell the whole truth about our church’s history with regards to racism. This may include looking at the language in our deeds, tracing our churches’ role during the time of slavery and segregation, and looking at the historical accuracy of how the

images in our churches depict Jesus. Truth-telling also includes confronting our racism and affirming that Black lives and all lives of color really do matter.

Change: During a season of prayer and fasting, our church will repent and identify what change is needed to be intentionally anti-racist given the uncomfortable truths we have discovered. We will persist even when we don’t want to.

Love: Our church will participate in vital conversations in cross-racial and/or cross-cultural groups followed by a discerned, collective action in the wider community.

CONFERENCE LEADERSHIP

THE BALTIMORE-WASHINGTON CONFERENCE OF THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH CONFERENCE LEADERSHIP REPORT 2019

*“...The gifts he gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until all of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ.”
Ephesians 4:2-8; 11-13 (NRSV)*

In an effort to honor these gifts and our diversity, we seek to engage all in building up the body of Christ. The Conference Commission on Nominations seeks¹ to have regional, racial, gender, age and lay/clergy inclusiveness in all committees, commissions, boards and agencies (hereinafter “agencies”) and chairpersons. This includes working toward having 20-30% of all agencies comprised of persons under 40.

We recommend that agencies identify their meeting dates for the year no later than September 1 of the current year. Care should be given to scheduling meetings at times when most laity are available to increase lay participation. If a member of an agency is absent from two consecutive meetings without an acceptable reason, that person shall cease to be a member.

The terms of office for a particular agency are as follows per Book of Discipline (hereinafter “BOD”) and Baltimore-Washington Conference (hereinafter “BWC”) policies:

1. The quadrennial system is an established part of The United Methodist structure. All members of agencies shall be elected for a quadrennial unless restricted by Discipline, charter, or some other requirement. In the event of such legal restrictions, the Tenure Limitation is still to be observed.
 - a. All quadrennial terms shall commence on July 1 following the adjournment of the first Annual Conference (hereinafter “AC”) session following General Conference, except the Conference Treasurer, whose term shall begin on January 1 of the following year.³
 - b. When persons are elected quadrennially, they serve a maximum of two terms, except for the Board of Ordained Ministry members which may serve a maximum of 3 terms (BOD, ¶635.a).
2. All other terms shall commence on July 1 following the AC Session in which persons are elected or announcement of election is made.

Each agency member’s name is followed by numbers in parentheses and letters:

1. Numbers indicate when a term is up and how many terms have been served on³ that particular agency.
 - a. Quadrennial terms have one number that represents how many quadrennium a person has served; e.g., (1)-elected quadrennially and in first quadrennium; (2)-elected quadrennially and in second quadrennium.
 - b. Other terms have two numbers: “when the term expires”-“how many terms served”; e.g., (18-1)³ means term expires in 2018³ and person is serving in the first term, (18-2)³ means term expires in 2018³ and the person serving is in their second term.
2. Letters indicate the region in which a member’s church³ is located:
 - a. BA-Baltimore Region, SO-Southern Region, WA-Washington Region, WS-Western Region
 - b. Agency members are urged to immediately contact the chairperson of the agency to which they have been elected, if they are appointed to or transfer membership to a church outside the region identified, in order to allow replacement by a regional representative.
3. Chair of each Committee is designated by a * before their name.

CONFERENCE OFFICERS

President: Bishop LaTrelle Easterling
Vice President & Lay Leader: Delores Martin
Secretary: Kevin Silberzahn
Treasurer/ CFO: Paul Eichelberger
Statistician: Rev. Daryl L. Williams
Director of Connectional Ministries: Christie Latona
Chancellor: Thomas Starnes

DISCIPLESHIP COUNCIL

There are 14 voting members of the Discipleship Council including the Conference Lay Leader, a youth, a young adult and 11 other persons nominated by the Conference Commission on Nominations.
Elected members of the Discipleship Council shall serve four years in two classes.
The Chairperson shall be nominated by the Commission on Nominations and elected by the Conference.
The Secretary shall be elected from the voting members of the Discipleship Council.

<u>Class of 2021</u>		
Barbara Parrish (21-1) WS	Pam Durbin (21-2) SO	OPEN (21-2) WA
Joe White (21-1) WS	Pastor Delonta Hicks (21-2) SO	Rev. Andre Briscoe (21-1) BA

<u>Class of 2022</u>	
Hazel Jackson (22-2) BA	*Rev. Jessica Hayden (22-2) BA
Carol Travis (22-2) WA	Joshua Chinagorom (22-1) SO
Rev. Bob Kells (22-1) WS	Rev. Jenny Cannon (22-2) WA

Lay Leader: Delores Martin	Young Adult Rep: TBD	Youth Rep: TBD
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<u>Ex officio (without vote):</u>	
Conference President: Bishop LaTrelle Easterling	Treasurer/CFO: Paul Eichelberger
Dean of the Cabinet: Rev. Rebecca Iannicelli	Director of Communications: Melissa Lauber
Director of Connectional Ministries: Christie Latona	

MINISTRY RELATIONSHIP OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

A Standing Committee of the Discipleship Council (2014 Conference Journal, p. 597)
Membership on the MROC shall include seven voting members: one representative each from the Discipleship Council on Finance and Administration, and the Board of Trustees; plus, four-at-large members recommended by the Commission on Nominations and elected by the Annual Conference.
The committee will elect the chair.⁴

*Rev. Mary Kay Totty, WA	Jamarri Bright SO	Daphne Hurd BA
Rev. Jessica Hayden BA	Rev. Jim Johnson WS	
Rev. Sheridan Allmond (Trustees)	Rick Miller (CFA)	Hazel Jackson (Discipleship Council)

<u>Ex officio (without vote):</u>	
Director of Connectional Ministries or designee: Rev. Stacey Cole Wilson	
Rebecca Iannicelli, Dean of the Cabinet	

THE CONNECTIONAL TABLE

Members of the Connectional Table are identified by Annual Conference position. The full list of those positions is available on pages 566-567 of the 2014 Baltimore-Washington Conference Journal (see page 328 for the addition of Deaf Ministry representative).

Chairperson: Conference Lay Leader: Delores Martin
Conference Secretary (serves as recording secretary): Kevin Silberzahn

CONFERENCE COMMISSION ON NOMINATIONS

¶6002 Conference Policy & Procedures Manual (2017-2020) Selected quadrennially	
Chairperson: Sarah Ford	Young Adult Representative: TBD
Secretary: Kevin Silberzahn	Youth Representative: TBD
Conference Lay Leader: Delores Martin	Lay Person Disability Concerns: Dixie Catlett (SO)
Director of Connectional Ministries: Christie Latona	At-Large Laity: Arletta Boston (WA) & Lillian Parks (SO)
President UMW: Linda S. Yost	
President UMM : Hampton Conway, Jr.	

District Superintendents

Rev. Gerard Green, GW, Cabinet Representative
 Rev. Ann Laprade, BS
 Rev. Rebecca Iannicelli, A
 Rev. Johnsie Cogman, WE

Rev. Wanda Duckett, BM
 Rev. J.W. Park, CM
 Rev. Edgardo Rivera, F
 Rev. John Wunderlich, CH

Lay Leader from each District

Kim Carr, A
 Rosalind Pinkney, WE
 Richard Willson, CH
 Thea Becton, BS

Rod Fry, CM
 Amelia Duroska, GW
 Barbara Shew, F
 Ophelia Brown-Carter, BM

One appointed clergy from each District, nominated by the District Superintendent and/or the district lay leader for a quadrennium.

Rev. S. Jerry Colbert, A
 Rev. Miguel Balderas, GW
 Rev. LaReesa Smith-Horn, BS
 Rev. Jeanne Parr, WE

Rev. Jean Lee, CM
 Rev. Denise Norfleet Walker, BM
 Pastor Dawn Reidy, F
 Rev. Michael Bennett, CH

DISCIPLESHIP

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT BOARD

Caring for the functions of ¶ 629. Board of Discipleship.

BOOM Chair (or designee)

Conference Lay Leader

Director of Lay Servant Ministries

Up to 6 people with skills and demonstrated fruitfulness in discipleship and leadership development (3 lay, 3 clergy)

Young People's Ministry leaders: one youth, one young adult

Conference Representative: Director of Leadership and Congregational Development

Ex Officio without vote: seminary reps, other staff responsible for leadership development

Class of 2021

*Pastor Nona Colbert (21-1) SO
 Rev. Braulio Torres (21-1) SO

Sherry Crockett (21-1) WS

Class of 2022

Niki Ellis (22-1) BA
 Rev. Phil Ayers (22-1) WA

Kevin Highfield (22-1) WA

TBD, BOOM Rep.

Delores Martin, Conference Lay Leader

Conference Rep: Rev. Rodney Smothers

Linda Flanagan, Director of Lay Servant Ministry

Nathan Jones, Youth Rep

Megan Blizzard, Young Adult Rep

Ex Officio:

Rev. John Nupp, Executive Minister of Call and Clergy Care

Rev. Chip Aldridge, Wesley Theological Seminary Representative

BOARD OF LAITY ¶631

(2017-2020) BOD recommends members and states Lay Leader shall be Chair. (report provided for information only)

Lay Leader and Chairperson: Delores Martin (2)

Associate Lay Leader: TBD

Director of Lay Servant Ministries: Linda Flanagan

Conference United Methodist Men: Hampton Conway, Jr. (President) and Sherman Harris (2)

Conference United Methodist Women: Linda S. Yost (1), Ann Price (1)

Certified Lay Ministry: Linda Flanagan

Youth Representative: TBD

District Lay Leaders:

Kim Carr A (1)
Rod Fry CM (1)
Richard Willson CH (1)

Rosalind Pinkney WE (1)
Amelia Duroska GW (1)

Ophelia Brown-Carter BM (2)
Barbara Shew F (2)
Thea Becton BS (2)

Ex officio: Past Conference Lay Leaders (Tom Flinn, Calvin Williams, Delores Oden)
Conference Representative: Christie Latona

NEW FAITH EXPRESSIONS BOARD

*At least one person per district with experience in launching new faith expressions, in start-up enterprises, or with other capacities deemed valuable to the task of supporting new faith expressions
(no more than 12 persons in all)
Staff person(s) responsible for New Faith Expressions*

Class of 2021
*Deborah Johnson (21-1) WE
Raimon Jackson (21-1) GW
Class of 2022
Rev. Stan Cardwell (22-1) AN
OPEN (22-1) CM

Kelly Crawford (21-1) BM
Rev. Kyle Durbin (21-1) CH

Rev. Dong Eun (Vivian) Lee (22-1) F
OPEN (22-1) BS

Ex Officio: Emma Escobar – Hispanic/Latino Ministries Coordinator
Conference Representative: Rev. Bill Brown

YOUNG PEOPLE’S MINISTRY BOARD

*(Caring for the functions of the Board of Higher Education and Campus Ministries ¶634, and some functions of Council on Youth Ministries ¶649, and Council on Young Adult Ministries ¶650).
10 voting members at least 4 are youth, 2 campus ministry student leaders, 2 Young Adult Ministry, 2 Retreat & Camping Ministry*

*Shemaiah Strickland, Young Adult SO
Michael Carrington, Young Adult BA
Maeci Curtis, Campus Ministry (FSU) WS
Margaret Brown, Campus Ministry (UMD) WA
OPEN, Youth SO

Ryan Taylor, Youth BA
OPEN, Youth WA
Jade Ruggieri, Youth WS
Miranda Tyler, RCM SO
Christie Hoffman, RCM BA

Ex officio: Matthew Surber – RCM Staff Rep; Rev. Elizabeth Jackson, Advisor; Wendy Johnson, Advisor; Becki Price – ROCK;
Campus Ministry Rep. Alexis Brown
Staff Representative: Cheryl Cook

STUDENT LEADER COHORT (previously known as CCYM ¶649)—

*The student cohort equips up to 30 high schoolers from different church sizes, cultures and locations to grow and serve in their various communities as lifelong disciples.
3 Youth per District plus 6 At-Large Youth*

2 Youth Mentors per district (some of whom might also serve as District Youth Coordinators). These youth mentors will complete applications and will be selected by the staff rep in consultation with the District Superintendents and District Lay Leaders.

Annapolis: Kim Carr and Ben Rigsby
Cumberland-Hagerstown: TBD
Washington East: Dave Showalter
Baltimore Suburban: Susan Harry and Bill Jones

Greater Washington: Sharon Milton
Baltimore Metropolitan: Shannon Gibbs
Central Maryland: TBD
Frederick District: TBD

Conference Representative: Matthew Surber

YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY TEAM (YAC ¶650)

*Book of Discipline recommends membership include one young adult selected by each district.
Members in 2 classes of 2 year terms, maximum 3 terms all members are between 18-35 years old.
(report provided for information only)*

Class of 2020

*Megan Blizzard (20-2) F Shemaiah Strickland (20-1) WE Moses Ngaima (20-1) BS
TBD (20-1) BM

Class of 2021

Chastity Jones (21-3) AN Cristin Cooper (21-2) CM TBD (21-1) CH
TBD (21-1) GW
Staff Representative: Cheryl Cook

ADVOCACY & ACTION BOARD

*(7 Chairs of Social Action Teams, 3 annual forum leaders, 1 Advocacy Team lead,
5 persons with gifts in grants admin, project mgmt and/or data analysis and 1 youth ambassador)*

Class of 2021

*Thomas Contee (21-1) SO Jan Taylor (21-1) BA
Rev. Shannon Sullivan WS

Class of 2022

James Wills (22-1) BA Tracy Collins WA

Chair Criminal/Restorative Justice (CJAMM) – Rev. Sonia King (SO)
Chair Gender Equity (COSROW) – Andrea Johnson (WA)
Chair Creation Care – Mike Koob (WS)
Chair Gun Violence Prevention –William McBride (BA)
Chair Immigration Reform – Rev. Julie Wilson (WS)
Chair Racial Justice (CCORR) – Moorosi Mokuena (WA)
Chair Wealth Equity – Rev. Rudy Bropleh (WS)
Forum Leader: Ethnic Local Church Opportunities and Concerns: Rev. Stephen Tillett (SO)
Forum Leader: Christian Unity and Interfaith Relationships: Rev. Dell Hinton (BA)
Forum Leader: Small Membership Churches: Pastor Rick Oursler (SO)
Advocacy Team Lead: Katie Nash WS
Youth Ambassador - TBD

Ex officio:

UMW Representative: TBD
UMM Representative: TBD
Peace with Justice Coordinator: Rev. Diane Dixon-Proctor
Parish and Community Development: Rev. Eric King
Deaf Ministries Representative: TBD
Committee on Disability Concerns Representative: TBD
Justice for Our Neighbor Representative: TBD
Committee on Native American Ministries: Thomas Crawford
Staff Representative: Rev. Stacey Cole Wilson

WELLNESS & MISSION BOARD

(AKA BOARD OF GLOBAL MINISTRIES ¶633)

13 voting members (at least one youth/young adult, Conf. Sec. of Global Ministries, VIM Coordinator, Disaster Response Coordinator, 9 others)

*Rev. Heath Wilson WS Rev. Nick Bufano BA Rev. Irance Reddix BA
Sherita Gaskins-Tillett SO Sheila Milburn SO Rev. Twanda Prioleau BA
Kerry Revell WS Rev. Lorraine Brown WA Richard Gillum WA
Jackie Weavill SO Young Adult

Conf. Global Ministries Secretary: Jane Grays
UMVIM Coordinator: Rev. Joan Carter-Rimbach
Disaster Response Coordinator: Pastor Fred Sipes

Ex officio:
UMW Education & Interpretation: Barbara Terry
UMM Rep: TBD
Staff Representative: Rev. Stacey Cole Wilson

GENDER EQUITY (COSROW) ¶644

Conference rules apply – 7 members in 2 classes of 2 year terms, maximum 3 terms

Class of 2021
*Andrea Johnson (21-1) WA Rev. Cynthia Belt (21-1) SO OPEN (21-1) WS

Class of 2022
Rev. Martin Brooks (22-1) SO Rev. Angela Kittrell SO (22-1) OPEN (22-1) A
Rev. Walter Jackson (22-1) BA

Conference Representative: Rev. Stacey Cole Wilson

COMMISSION ON DISABILITY CONCERNS ¶653

Conference rules apply – 7 members in 2 classes of 2 year terms, maximum 3 terms

Class of 2020
John Harden (20-1) WA Rev. Ella M. Lawson (20-3) BA Darlene Koontz (20-2) WS
Rev. Lisa Wirkus (20-2) WS Rev. Kathy Lossau (20-3) WA

Class of 2021:
*Dixie Catlett (21-1) SO Patrick Burk (21-3) BA

Ex officio:
Deaf Ministry: Lisa Harvey
Conference Representative: Rev. Wanda Bynum Duckett

NATIVE AMERICAN MINISTRIES ¶654

Conference rules apply – 7 members in 2 classes of 2 year terms, maximum 3 terms

Class of 2021
Ronnelle Cook (SO) *Thomas Crawford (CH) Tavonya Dyson (SO)

Class of 2022
OPEN OPEN OPEN
OPEN

Conference Representative: Rev. Stacey Cole Wilson

COMMISSION ON RELIGION AND RACE ¶643

Conference rules apply – 7 members in 2 classes of 2 year terms, maximum 3 terms

Class of 2020
*Moorosi Mokuena (20-2) WA Rev. Jen Fenner (20-2) WA
Rev. Margaret Clemons (20-3) WS Ebony Roach (20-1) BA

Class of 2021
Darrell Taylor (21-2) BA
William Carpenter (21-1) WS
Rev. Ramon McDonald (21-1) SO

Ex officio:
Rev. Giovanni Arroyo, Jen Ihlo
Conference Representative: Rev. Edgardo Rivera

DISCIPLESHIP: OTHER

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN ¶647

For information only. Elected by UMW.

President: Linda Yost

Vice President: Ruthella Lievers

Secretary: Sherie Koob

Treasurer: Sabrina White

Missions Coordinators are listed below:

Education & Interpretation: Barbara Terry

Social Action: Vacant

Membership Nurture & Outreach: Daphne Hurd

Spiritual Growth: Rita Green

Chairperson Committee on Nominations: Pamela Aulton

Communications Coordinator: Kim Marie Walker

Secretary of Program Resources: Vacant

Conference Representative: Rev. Stacey Cole Wilson

UNITED METHODIST MEN ¶648

For information only. Elected by UMM.

President: Hampton Conway, Jr.

Vice President: Ceferino Epps

Secretary: Ricardo Jefferson, Sr.

Treasurer: Garrett Henley

Prayer Advocate: Bryon Gould

Program Chairperson: Malcolm Clory, Sr.

Conference Representative: Rev. John Wunderlich

Mission Coordinator: James Williams

Scholarship Coordinator: vacant

Communications: Richard Campbell

Conf. Scouting Coordinator: Rev. Ken Lyons, Jr. & Joseph Vicek

Evangelism, Mission, & Spiritual Life: James Gainey

COMMISSION ON COMMUNICATIONS ¶646

Conference rules apply – 7 members in 2 classes of 2 year terms, maximum 3 terms

Class of 2020

*Rev. Terri Cofiehl (20-2) BA

Mittie Quinn (20-2) WA

Rev. Michael Fauconnet (20-1) SO

BreSean Jenkins (20-1) GW

Class of 2021

Pastor Christine Kumar (21-2) BA

Karmalita Contee (21-1) SO

Brian Nelson (21-2) WA

Rev. Beth Hutton (21-1) WS

Conference Representative: Melissa Lauber

COMMISSION ON ARCHIVES AND HISTORY ¶641

Conference rules apply – 7 members in 2 classes of 2 year terms, maximum 3 terms

Class of 2020

Keenan Hudson (20-3) WS

Rev. Katie O'Hern (20-1) WS

Pamela Coleman (20-1) BA

Rev. Dae Sung Park (20-3) WA

Class of 2021

*Rev. Emora Brannan (21-2) BA

Rev. James Chance (21-3) SO

Rev. Stephen Ricketts (21-3) WS

Conference Historian: Rev. Emora Brannan

Conference Representative: Robert Shindle

Ex officio: representing UMC Heritage Landmarks

- Helen Kemp, Strawbridge House (Strawbridge Shrine Assn., New Windsor, MD)
- Daniel Fisher, Old Otterbein Church (Old Otterbein UMC, Baltimore, MD)
- Rev. Deb Scott, Lovely Lane Meetinghouse Site (Lovely Lane UMC, Baltimore, MD)
- Representative, Geeting Meetinghouse Site (Salem UMC, Keedysville, MD)
- Representative, Cokesbury College Site (Cokesbury Mem. UMC, Abingdon, MD)

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE ON HISPANIC-LATINO MINISTRIES

For information only: selected by HLM

Executive Committee:

*Rev. Giovanni Arroyo Secretary & Education and Advocacy: Rev. Heather Olson
Lucy Torres (Vice-Chair) Faithful Discipleship: Rev. Jen Fenner
Connectional Commitment: Rev. DaeHwa Park At-Large: Rev. Dr. Miguel Balderas and Lauren Busky
Connectional Commitment: Cory Slack, Raimon Jackson, Lucy Torres, Rev. DaeHwa Park, Rev. Edgardo Rivera
Faithful Discipleship: Lauren Busky, Henry Welcome, Rev. Jen Fenner, Rev. Miguel Balderas, and Rev. F. Douglas Powe, Jr.
Education & Advocacy: Jorge Granados-de la Rosa, Andres Arco, Mike Dean, Rev. Heather Olson, Rev. Wanda Duckett, Rev. Eliezer Valentin-Castañon, and Rebecca Cole.

Conference Representative: Emma Escobar

STEWARDSHIP MINISTRIES

COUNCIL ON FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION ¶611-618 (2017-2020)

Per conference rules - 12 members who do not serve more than two terms and, per BOD, individuals are elected quadrennially

*Phil Potter WA (1)	Rev. Robert Slade SO (2)	Lucinda Fisher (2) BA
Charles Myers BA (2)	Rev. Marlon Tilghman BA (2)	Gwen Morgan (2) WA
Charlie Moore SO (1)	Rev. Daryl Williams SO (1)	David Fisher (1) WS
Paul Hazen WA (2)	Rick Miller WS (2)	Betty Henderson (1) SO

Ex officio: GCFA Board Member Ken Ow
Cabinet Representative: Rev. John Wunderlich

BOARD OF TRUSTEES ¶640 and 2512

Per BOD, “shall have 12 members elected in staggered 4-year terms” and, per conference rules, may serve a maximum of two terms

Class of 2020		
Rev. Bob Ruggieri WS (1)	Pastor Lem Dominguez BA (1)	Dick Findley SO (1)
Class of 2021		
Delila Parham SO (1)	Barbara Hutchinson SO (1)	Rev. Robert Snyder WS (2)
Class of 2022		
Sonja Brown-Jenkins WS (1)	Rev. Sherwyn Benjamin WA (1)	Rev. Diane Dixon-Proctor WA (2)
Class of 2023		
Rev. Sheridan Allmond BA (2)	*John Strawbridge BA (2)	Pastor Lucinda Kent WA (1)

Ex officio:
Bishop Easterling, Paul Eichelberger, Pier McPayten
Cabinet Representative: Rev. Johnsie Cogman

BOARD OF PENSIONS ¶639

Per BOD, “shall have 12 members elected in staggered 4-year terms” and, per conference rules may serve a maximum of two terms. In order to stagger the classes, some members may serve fewer years than others.

Class of 2020		
*Rev. Cary James BA (1)	Alice Jackson SO (1)	Patsy Baker Blackshear SO (1)
Class of 2021		
Ed Hunt (2) BA	Donna Snyder WS (2)	Rev. Jarrett Wicklein BA (2)
Class of 2022		
Rev. Curtis Ehr Gott WA (2)	Rev. Daniel Montague BA (2)	Carl Eichenwald WA (1)
Class of 2023		
Doreen Bass (WS) (1)	Rev. Chris Serufusa WS (2)	Rev. Ken Valentine SO (2)

Ex officio: Francess Tagoe
Cabinet Representative: Rev. Ann Laprade