

THE BOARD OF ORDAINED MINISTRY

Every clergy and laity on the Board of Ordained Ministry is a highly dedicated and faithful servant, who gives of his or her time and unique gifts to the ministry of leadership development. Together, they prayerfully seek to affirm the calling of each candidate for ministry, with compassionate nurture and accountability. We are grateful for each member of the Board of Ordained Ministry who serves to encourage, provide, and develop fruitful leaders in various ministry settings.

Like all ministries, this past year, and most recently during the COVID-19 pandemic, the Board of Ordained Ministry has been invited and challenged to discover different approaches to our two primary tasks: leadership development and credentialing. We have worked faithfully and adapted accordingly in the midst of the challenges. It remains a body that collaborates well, even as we exist in an emerging church culture that also faces possible denominational shifts.

At a yet undetermined date, we will celebrate the fruit of persons who have answered a call to ministry and successfully navigated the requirements for commissioning and ordination. These persons are valued as meeting the standards of "readiness" and "effectiveness" for ministry in the local church and other ministry settings. Ten persons will be ordained Full Elders; nine persons will be commissioned Provisional Elders; one person will be commissioned a Provisional Deacon:

Kenneth David Freeman, Jr.	FE
Cindy Wolfe Muncie	FE
Sammy Omar Pazi	FE
Nathan Smalls	FE
Elizabeth Fulmer Sullivan	FE
Frances Hillary Taylor	FE
Brenda Joyce Thomas	FE
Carole Anne Waters	FE
Lisa Montque Way	FE
Cheryl Elaine Yates	FE

James Thornton Brown, III	PE
William Douglas Herlong	PE
Cameron Thomas Levi	PE
Tae Suk Park	PE
Bryan Wray Pigford	PE
Woongchul Daniel Ra	PE
Andrew Warren Sizemore	PE
James David Taylor, III	PE

Emma McClain Murphy	PD
Soon Suk Nix	PD

We give thanks that each has responded to a call to ministry and a commitment to the ministry process, and we ask God's blessing on their continued journey in mission and ministry. We look forward to a time in the future when we can celebrate their commissioning and ordination together.

Also, through the generosity of the churches in SC Annual Conference, the BOM is able to offer scholarships to assist persons called to ministry to achieve the necessary education to equip them for ministry. This year we are delighted to recognize the following scholarship recipients:

Seminary Students Scholarship Recipients:

Joseph Daniel Kovas	\$3,000.00
James William Smith	\$3,000.00

The BOM would also like to recognize those who have reached a milestone in their continued preparation for effective ministry.

The following person(s) completed the five-year Basic Course of Study in 2019/2020:

John Elmore	August 2019	Duke
Jerry Godfrey	August 2019	Duke
Jacob Thompson	November 2019	Duke
Richard Toy	July 2019	Duke

As always, we are grateful for the churches and the Annual Conference for ongoing support for the Ministry Education Fund. Through your generosity, the BOM has been able to provide financial assistance to students reducing the cost to them for seminary and Course of Study. This past year \$166,450.00 were disbursed for seminarians, and \$67,250.00 for the Course of Study, totaling \$233,700.00. We invite you to continue to be generous in your support of our seminarians and local pastors as they remain faithful in their leadership development toward excellence in ministry. Your offering may be sent to the *SC Conference Seminary Students Scholarship Fund*, an endowment of the South Carolina United Methodist Foundation, which provides scholarship awards to candidates

for ministry from South Carolina attending United Methodist seminaries and theological schools. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

District Committees on Ordained Ministry are an extension of the Board of Ordained Ministry that are committed to meeting often with all candidates for ministry. They have an extremely important role in nurture and accountability of persons in the ministry process. The BOM is grateful for the hard work of every District Committee on Ordained Ministry.

As you have heard, we celebrate God's call on lives to the unparalleled vocation and joy of ministry.

There is also other business as it relates to ministry that necessitates our meticulous and particular attention. The Board of Ordained Ministry continues to plan and implement the Bishop's School of Ministry, Clergy Orders, recruit and engage seminarians as potential and hopeful leaders in the SC Conference, discern and process Extension Ministry requests, participate in Approval for Service requests, receive and prayerfully process requests for Change of Status of candidates and clergy and engage persons discerning a call to ministry through the Candidacy Retreats, just to name a few of the ongoing responsibilities of the board. Above all, as your South Carolina Conference Board of Ordained Ministry, we strive to faithfully attend to the nurture and accountability of every person called to ministry and those serving Christ in these strange and hope-filled times in which all find ourselves.

On behalf of the Board of Ordained Ministry, we are grateful for the faithful and consummate leadership of the Rev. Ken Nelson, Coordinator Clergy Services, and Mr. Sharome Henry, Executive Assistant, Clergy Services. The work of the BOM could not be done as smoothly and effectively without the blessing of their guidance, leadership, knowledge, professionalism, and love for the Church.

Bishop in response to BQ 17, *"Are all the clergy members of the conference blameless in their life and official administration (¶¶604.4, 605.7)?"* The answer is yes with the exception of those matters which have been acted upon in the clergy session.

Bishop, I move the Report of the Board of Ordained Ministry to record.

Respectfully submitted:

Rev. Fran M. Elrod
Board of Ordained Ministry, Chair