

Bishop Ken Carter

Western North Carolina UMC

Bishop Kenneth H. Carter Jr. is the resident bishop of the Western North Carolina Conference of The United Methodist Church.

Along with the Cabinet, he gives pastoral and administrative leadership to over 173,000 members, 640 congregations, 200 fresh expressions of church, 130 Lighthouse Churches, 17 emerging communities, 10 new church plants, 8 campus ministries, and numerous outreach



initiatives in an episcopal area that stretches across the 44 western counties of the state.

Bishop Carter served as the president of the Council of Bishops of The United Methodist Church from 2018 to 2020, and he was one of three moderators of The Commission on a Way Forward, from 2016 to 2018. In addition to his responsibilities with the Western North Carolina Conference, he is bishop-in-residence and a consulting faculty member at Duke University Divinity School. He served as bishop of the Florida Conference from 2012-2022.

Bishop Carter earned degrees from Columbus College, Duke Divinity School, the University of Virginia, and Princeton Theological Seminary. In addition, he is a graduate of Leadership Greensboro, Leadership Winston-Salem and the Harvard Law School Program on Negotiation, and he has served on the Board of Visitors of Duke University Divinity School and the Institutional Review Board of the Wake Forest University School of Medicine.

He was a local church pastor in the Western North Carolina Conference for twenty-eight years. He travels extensively across the conference, preaching in local churches and encouraging lay and clergy leaders.

Bishop Carter and his wife Pam have been married for 43 years. They are blessed with two adult daughters and two granddaughters.