



new every. morning

SERVICE OF RECOGNITION,
COMMISSIONING AND ORDINATION

Saturday, June 3, 2023

GRAND TRAVERSE RESORT & SPA — ACME MI



Michigan Conference
The United Methodist Church



Greetings in the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the peace and power of the Holy Spirit.

"Jesus said to them again, 'Peace be with you. As the Father sent me, so I am sending you.' Then he breathed on them and said, 'Receive the Holy Spirit.'" (John 20:21-22, Common English Bible). We are a sent and Spirit-breathed people. Along with the gift of the Spirit come a variety of gifts. Paul writes, "He gave some apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers. His purpose was to equip God's people to the work of serving and building up the body of Christ until we all reach the unity of faith and knowledge of God's Son. God's goal is for us to become mature adults – to be fully grown, measured by the standard of the fullness of Christ." (Ephesians 4:11-13, Common English Bible)

Our Book of Discipline echoes these words: "Ministry in the Christian church is derived from the ministry of Christ, who calls all persons to receive God's gift of salvation and follow in the way of love and service.... Within the church community, there are persons whose gifts, evidence of God's grace, and promise of future usefulness are affirmed by the community, and who respond to God's call by offering themselves in leadership as set-apart ministers, ordained and licensed." (§ 301)

We gather for this special worship service to affirm those whom God has called into set-apart ministry, who have been examined by the church, and found to have the gifts, graces and promise the church needs as it seeks to be in ministry for and with Jesus Christ in our fast-changing and complex world. As a bishop it is my great joy and privilege to place my hands and offer my hands to those being licensed, commissioned, and ordained. I do this in the tradition of bishops who came before me. On my office wall I have a line-of succession document tracing my ordination back through bishops to John Wesley. Every bishop, in offering hands, offers symbolically offers God's Spirit and the tradition of the Church, the Church which exists to make disciples of Jesus Christ so that lives will be different and the world will be different.

A unique dimension to ordination services in The United Methodist Church is that they happen when we are gathered at Annual Conference. In many other denominations, ordination occurs in local churches. Here we acknowledge our connection with one another in ministry. The ministry of the church belongs to all God's people, not just the clergy. Yet we believe that to be the church we need leaders called by God. At provisional membership, ordination or licensing, persons become members of the Annual Conference. Together we are the set-apart leadership for Michigan United Methodists, all of us, lay and clergy alike, working together so that we might grow up into mature adulthood in faith and together follow in the way of love and service.

As we celebrate those newly commissioned, licensed, recognized, and ordained, may we all hear God's call anew to be God's people, together in ministry to a world desperately in need of more love, more justice, more care, more tenderness, more courage, and more beauty.

David A Bard

Bishop David Alan Bard





WELCOME

Welcome to this significant service of worship and celebration of ministry. This afternoon we will recognize, commission and ordain those whom God has called into the leadership of the church. All that we do is anchored in the sacrament of baptism and the ministry of all baptized persons. We invite you to participate fully and pray that the Holy Spirit will work within you as we offer praise and thanksgiving to God for gathering, empowering and sending us to be the body and do the work of Christ.

Commissioned as Deacons and Elders

Commissioning relates persons to the ministry of the provisional members within the annual conference. In it, we acknowledge and affirm God's call and the individual's gifts and training for leadership in the local church. We offer our support for their continuing formation as they journey toward ordination and full membership. Those preparing for ordination as elders and serving local congregations are licensed and authorized for sacramental and pastoral duties. Those preparing for ordination as deacons are licensed and authorized for their appropriate specialized ministries.

Ordination of Deacons and Elders

Ordination is understood as the act of the Holy Spirit. As a liturgical act, it is the culmination of a process in which representatives of the whole Church discern and validate the call, gifts and effectiveness for ministry of those being ordained. Ordination of deacons and elders is both to an office and for a lifetime. It confers a new identity in the life of the church as well as authority for ministry. Upon ordination, deacons and elders become accountable to the whole church, to the community of the ordained, and to the order of deacons or elders of which they are a part. The ministry of the deacon is to teach and to form disciples, to lead worship together with other ordained and lay persons, conduct marriages and bury the dead, and lead the congregation in interpreting the needs and hopes of the world. Deacons exemplify Christian discipleship and create opportunities for others to enter into discipleship. The ministry of the elder is expressed by leading the people of God in worship and prayer, by leading persons to faith in Jesus Christ, by exercising pastoral supervision in the congregation, and by leading the Church in obedience to mission in the world.

PRELUDE

Sing a New Church
Delores Dufner, OSB
NETTLETON



1. Sum-moned by the God who made us rich in our di - ver - si - ty
2. Ra -diant ri - sen from the wa - ter, robed in ho - li - ness and light,
3. Trust the good-ness of cre - a - tion; trust the Spi - rit strong with - in.
4. Bring the hopes of ev' - ry na - tion; bring the art of ev' - ry race.
5. Draw to - ge - ther at one ta - ble, all the hu - man fa - mi - ly;



Ga-thered in the name of Je - sus, ri - cher still in u - ni - ty.
male and fe - male in God's i - mage, male and fe - male, God's de - light.
Dare to dream the vi - sion pro mised, sprung from seed of what has been.
Weave a song of peace and jus - tice; let it sound through time and space.
shape a cir - cle e - ver wi - der and a peo - ple ev - er free.



Let us__ bring the gifts that dif - fer and, in__ splen-did, va-ried ways,



sing a new Church in - to be - ing, one in faith and love and praise.

CENTERING WORDS

Rev. Dr. Jill Zundel

*PROCESSIONAL

*Indicates all are invited to stand as you are comfortable.

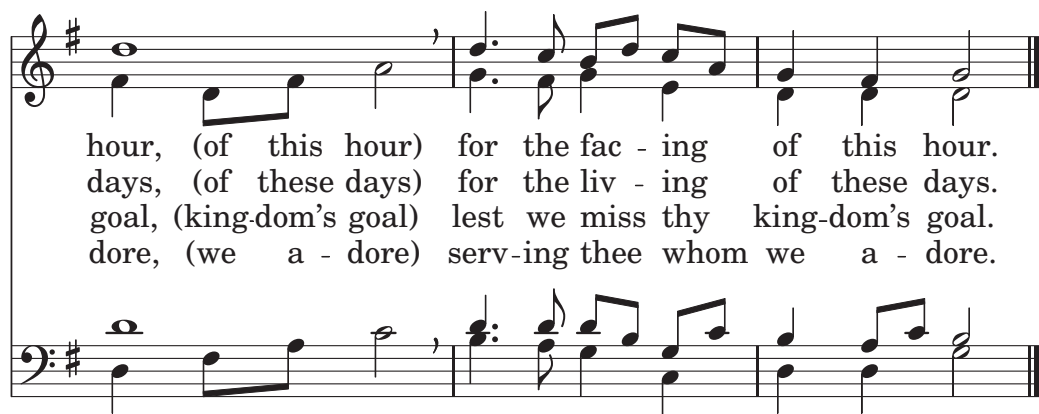
God of Grace and God of Glory UMH 577
Lord, You Give the Great Commission UMH 584 (stanzas 1 & 2, alt.)
All to the tune CYM RHONDDA

1. God of grace and God of glo - ry, on thy peo - ple
2. Lo! the hosts of e - vil round us scorn thy Christ, as -
3. Cure thy chil-dren's war-ring mad-ness, bend our pride to
4. Save us from weak res - ig - na - tion to the e - vils

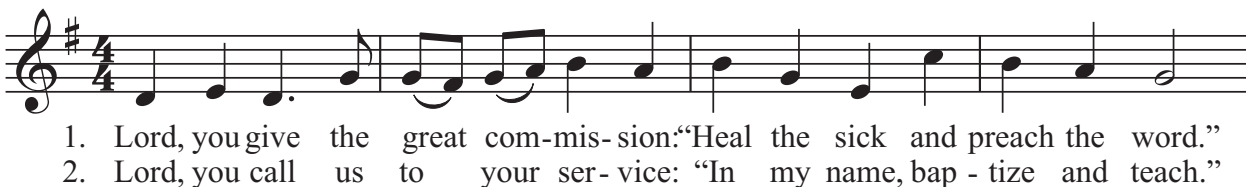
pour thy power; crown thine an - cient church's sto - ry;
sail his ways! Fears and doubts too long have bound us;
thy con - trol; shame our wan - ton, self - ish glad-ness,
we de - plore; let the search for thy sal - va - tion

bring her bud to glo - rious flower. Grant us wis - dom,
free our hearts to work and praise. Grant us wis - dom,
rich in things and poor in soul. Grant us wis - dom,
be our glo - ry ev - er - more. Grant us wis - dom,

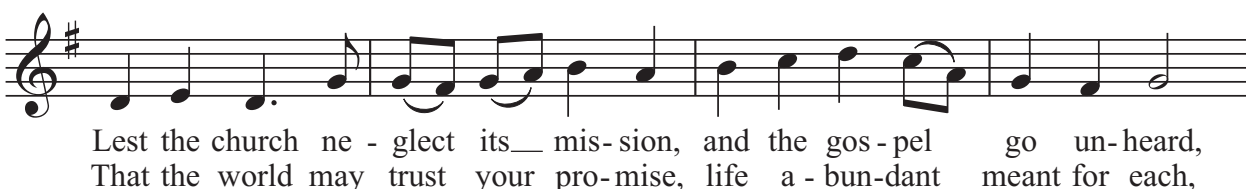
grant us cour - age, for the fac - ing of this
grant us cour - age, for the liv - ing of these
grant us cour - age, lest we miss thy king - dom's
grant us cour - age, serv - ing thee whom we a -



hour, (of this hour) for the fac - ing of this hour.
 days, (of these days) for the liv - ing of these days.
 goal, (king-dom's goal) lest we miss thy king-dom's goal.
 dore, (we a - dore) serv-ing thee whom we a - dore.



1. Lord, you give the great com-mis-sion: "Heal the sick and preach the word."
 2. Lord, you call us to your ser-vice: "In my name, bap - tize and teach."



Lest the church ne - glect its mis-sion, and the gos-pel go un-heard,
 That the world may trust your pro-mise, life a - bun-dant meant for each,



With the Spi-rit's gifts em-pow'r us for the work of mi-nis - try,



for the work of mi - ni - stry!

*GREETING AND PRAYER

Bishop David A. Bard, Bishop of the Michigan Conference of The United Methodist Church:
 The grace of Jesus Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

The Holy Spirit is among us.

People: Move us, Holy Spirit!

Let us pray.

All: Eternal God, by Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit you gave to your apostles many excellent gifts. Give your grace to all who have been called to ministry, that they may with diligence and faithfulness fulfill their various ministries. Grant that we your people may follow where you lead, to do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with you. We pray in the name of Jesus. Amen.

***RECOGNITION OF COMMON MINISTRY AND REAFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM**

Beloved in Christ:

Ministry is the work of God, done by the people of God and given to each Christian as vocation.

Through baptism all Christians are made part of the priesthood of all believers,

The Church made visible in the world.

God in Christ through the Holy Spirit empowers us to live as witnesses of God's grace and love.

We are to bear witness in and through the life of the Church and to be faithful in our daily lives.

Therefore, in celebration of our common ministry,

I call upon all God's people gathered here:

Remember your baptism and be thankful.

All: We reaffirm our baptism and our common call to ministry. Thanks be to God!

INTRODUCTION OF ECUMENICAL REPRESENTATIVE

Rev. Jennifer Browne, Clergy Assistant to the Bishop / Director of Clergy Services:

Knowing that the body of Christ is strongest when it is united in purpose and diverse in nature, The United

Methodist Church has a longstanding commitment to ecumenism.

Therefore, our tradition in services of ordination is to include a representative of the

larger Christian body. This evening we are especially honored to welcome

Bishop Prince Singh, Bishop of the Episcopal Dioceses of Eastern and Western Michigan.

RECOGNITION AND PRAYER FOR THOSE COMPLETING COURSE OF STUDY

Rev. Marv Herman, Chair, Fellowship of Local Pastors and Associate Members

Gathered as Christ's body the Church,

and as people of the Michigan Conference of The United Methodist Church,

we celebrate the work of these persons who have completed the Course of Study:

Class of 2022

Daniel Lee Barkholz

Michael C. Desotell

Richard J. Foster

Mark A. Harriman

Scott A. Herald

Robert L. Snodgrass II

Kenny Ray Walkup Jr.

Thomas J. Waller

Coleen Drew Wilsdon

Let us pray for them:

Loving God, as you walked among us, you called women and men, young and old,

tax collectors and fishermen, inviting them to lay down their old priorities

in order to take up a new life following you. Like them, these Course of Study graduates

have bravely changed their lives in order to serve you. Bless them in their ministry

and guide them to walk closely with you. Amen.

Bishop Bard:

We honor the faithful work of ministry that you have already done
and rejoice in all that is yet to come.

**All: With thanksgiving, we celebrate all you have done and rejoice in all you will do
as servants of Christ and leaders among us. May God guide you in the way ahead.**

MUSICAL RESPONSE

Send Me, Lord UMH 497



PRESENTATION OF PERSONS TO BE COMMISSIONED, RECOGNIZED, OR ORDAINED

Bishop Bard:

Who presents these candidates to be commissioned, recognized, or ordained?

Annette Erbes, Lay Leader:

On behalf of the laity of local congregations of the
Michigan Conference, who have recommended them in our local congregations,
I present these candidates with our prayers and support.

Rev. Barry Petrucci, Chair, Board of Ordained Ministry:

On behalf of the Board of Ordained Ministry,
and the Michigan Conference which has approved them,
I present these candidates for commissioning with our prayers and support:

To be commissioned for the work of an Elder:

Anthony J.M. Ballah
Jodi Melissa Cartwright
Martin Andrew Johnston

I present these transfer candidates with our prayers and support:

To be transferred as Full Members for the work of an Elder:

Benjamin Kevin Smalls
Lawrence J. Wiliford

I present these candidates for ordination with our prayers and support:

For ordination as Elder:

Jessica Mae Davenport
Eric Max Falker
Susan Elizabeth Hitts
Scott William Marsh
Paul Christopher Reissmann IV
Suzanne Lee Todd
Michael William Vollmer
Jenaba Rebecca Duymovic Waggy

Bishop Bard: We rejoice in the Spirit's work in our lives
and the lives of these people who come to serve and lead among us.

**All: We will uphold them with our prayers and support.
Thanks be to God.**

THE GENERAL EXAMINATION

Bishop Bard:

Sisters and brothers in Christ, the Church now confirms your calling.
As ordained or commissioned ministers,
you are to be coworkers with laity, bishops, elders, deacons, local pastors,
provisional members, diaconal ministers, deaconesses, home missionaries,
supply pastors, and with all the people of God.
Remember you are called to serve rather than to be served,
to proclaim the faith of the Church and no other,
to look after the concerns of God above all.
So we may know you believe yourselves to be called by
God and that you profess the Christian faith, we ask you:

Do you believe that God has called you to the life and work of set apart ministry?
I do so believe.

Do you believe in the Triune God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit
and confess Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior?
I do so believe and confess.

Are you persuaded that the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments
contain all things necessary for salvation through faith in Jesus Christ
and are the unique and authoritative standard for the Church's faith and life?
I am so persuaded, by God's grace.

Will you be faithful in prayer, in the study of the Holy Scriptures,
and with the help of the Holy Spirit continually rekindle the gift of God that is in you?
I will, with the help of God.

Will you do your best to pattern your life in accordance with the teachings of Christ?
I will, with the help of God.

Will you, in the exercise of your ministry, lead the people of God to faith in Jesus Christ,
participate in the life and work of the community, and seek peace, justice, and freedom for all people?
I will, with the help of God.

Will you be faithful to The United Methodist Church, accepting and upholding its order,
liturgy, doctrine, and discipline, defending them against all doctrines contrary to God's
Holy Word, and committing yourself to be accountable with those serving with you,
and to the bishop and those who are appointed to supervise your ministry?
I will, with the help of God.

Will you, for the sake of the Church's life and mission, covenant to participate in the life

of the order into which you are commissioned, recognized or ordained?
Will you give yourself to God through the order, in order to sustain and
build each other up in prayer, study, worship and service under the rule of life
set forth in the vows you take this day?

I will, with the help of God.

May God, who has given you the will to do these things, give you grace to perform them,
that the work begun in you by the Holy Spirit may be brought to perfection.

All: Amen.

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

The Scripture Readings
Psalm 150
Romans 12:1-13
*Luke 19:28-40
(Please stand for the gospel reading.)

SERMON

Bishop David A. Bard
"Make Me a Saxophone"

***HYMN OF RESPONSE**

Instruments Of Your Peace
By Deby Dearman and Kirk Dearman

Chorus
Lord make us instruments of Your peace
Where there is hatred let Your love increase
Lord make us instruments of Your peace
Walls of pride and prejudice shall cease
When we are Your instruments of peace

Verse 1
Where there is hatred we will sow His love
Where there is injury we will never judge
Where there is striving we will speak His peace
To the people crying for release
We will be His instruments of peace

Chorus

Verse 2
Where there is blindness we will pray for sight
Where there is darkness we will shine His light
Where there is sadness we will bear their grief
To the millions crying for release
We will be His instruments of peace

Chorus

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

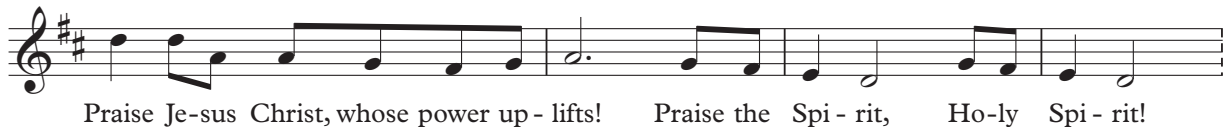
Rev. Jennifer Browne:

Today's offering will support the Ministerial Education Fund, which assists people pursuing pastoral leadership in The United Methodist Church through seminary and continuing education scholarships, funding of our thirteen U.S. United Methodist seminaries, and more.

OFFERTORY

Lord, Make Me An Instrument *Conference Choir*

*DOXOLOGY UMH 94



*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Rev. Jennifer Browne:

Loving God, we give you thanks for your gift of love and grace, given to us through Jesus Christ.

By the power of your Holy Spirit, you call us to faithfully follow, to share Christ's love in the world, and to be your hands and feet here on earth.

As the offering is generously given, with humble and thankful hearts, may it be blessed for the building of your kingdom, the renewing of your church, and the transformation of the world.

In the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, Amen.

EXAMINATION OF CANDIDATES FOR COMMISSIONING

Bishop Bard:

Provisional members are bound to the service of God,
appointed and supervised by the bishop, and guided by ordained and lay colleagues
and the Board of Ordained Ministry, as they continue to grow in grace
and to practice and perfect their skills in the ministries to which they may later be ordained
as Deacon or Elder. This is the way of life and work of a provisional member.

Do you believe that God has called you to continue your preparation toward ordained ministry in this way?

I do so believe.

COMMISSIONING AND LAYING ON OF HANDS

Bishop Bard:

God of the apostles and prophets, of the martyrs and teachers,
you raise up men and women to be apostolic leaders in your Church.

By your Holy Spirit help these, your servants,
to understand and live the mystery of your love with boldness and joy.
Deepen their sense of purpose as they exercise commissioned ministry.
Empower them and those who will walk with them to guide their ministry,
together with all of your people, to heal the sick, love the outcast,
resist evil, preach the Word, and give themselves freely for your name's sake. **Amen.**

Pour out your Holy Spirit upon *Full Name*.

Send him/her/them now to proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ,
to announce the reign of God, and to equip the Church for ministry,
in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

PRESENTATION OF NEWLY COMMISSIONED MEMBERS

Bishop Bard: As you have placed yourselves into the hands of God,

People: **And as we have prayed for the Holy Spirit to empower you
for your continuing growth in ministry among us,**

Bishop Bard: We now send you forth to announce the good news of God's kingdom,
and equip disciples of Jesus for ministry.

People: **Lead us to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.**

Bishop Bard: I present to you these newly commissioned members of
the Michigan Conference of The United Methodist Church!

MUSICAL RESPONSE

Send Me, Lord UMH 497

Send me, Lord.



Send me Je-sus, send me, Je - sus, send me, Je- sus, send me, Lord.
Thu-ma mi-na, thu - ma mi - na, thu - ma mi - na, So- man - dla.

EXAMINATION OF ELDERS

Rev. LuAnn Rourke, District Superintendent of the Heritage District

An Elder is called to share in the ministry of Christ and of the whole Church:
to preach and teach the Word of God
and faithfully administer the sacraments of Holy Baptism and Holy Communion;
to lead the people of God in worship and prayer; to lead persons to faith in Jesus Christ;
to exercise pastoral supervision, to order the life of the congregation and connection,
to counsel the troubled, and declare the forgiveness of sin;
to lead the people of God in obedience to Christ's mission in the world;
to seek justice, peace, and freedom for all people; and to take a responsible place
in the government of the Church and in service in and to the community.

This is the rule of life and work of an Elder.

Do you believe that God has called you to the life and work of an Elder?

I do so believe.

Will you, for the sake of the Church's life and mission, covenant to participate in the Order of Elders?

Will you give yourself to God through the Order of Elders in order to
sustain and build each other up in prayer, study, worship, and service?

I will, with the help of God, and the help of my sisters and brothers in the Order of Elders.

PRAYER FOR ELDERS

Rev. Deborah Johnson, representing the Chair for Order of Elders

We praise you, eternal God, because you have called us to be a priestly people.

We thank you that Christ has brought forth new life, pouring gifts upon your people,
making some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, in order to equip the saints, to build up
the body of Christ, and to fulfill your gracious purposes in the world. Give to these your servants the grace
and power they need to serve you in this ministry. Make them faithful pastors, patient teachers, and wise
counselors. Enable them to serve without reproach, to proclaim the gospel, to administer the sacraments, and
to offer with all your people spiritual sacrifices acceptable to you, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

RECOGNITION OF ORDERS

Bishop Bard:

This evening, it is our joy to recognize and welcome two elders among us
who are transferring into the Michigan Conference of The United Methodist Church.

Rev. Benjamin Kevin Smalls is transferring from the Baltimore Washington Conference
of The United Methodist Church.

Rev. Smalls, we recognize and welcome you to serve among us.

People: We receive you with joy! Thanks be to God!

Rev. Lawrence J. Wiliford is transferring from the Upper New York Conference
of The United Methodist Church.

Rev. Wiliford, we recognize and welcome you to serve among us.

People: We receive you with joy! Thanks be to God!

Bishop Bard: Let us pray:
Almighty God, pour out your blessings upon Rev. Smalls and Rev. Wiliford who serve
among us in the Michigan Conference of The United Methodist Church.
Grant them joy, that they may experience the fullness of Christ.
Grant them grace, that they may give their hearts and lives in service to you.
Grant them peace, that they may be guided and sustained by your Holy Spirit.
In the name of Jesus Christ, Amen.

LAYING ON OF HANDS FOR ORDINANDS: INVOCATION OF HOLY SPIRIT

Bishop Bard: The Lord be with you.
People: And also with you.
Bishop Bard: Holy Spirit, move among us! Come, Holy Spirit!
People: Come, Holy Spirit!
Bishop Bard: These persons are to be ordained by God and the Church for the ministry of Elders,
to which they have been called by the Holy Spirit.
Let us pray for them.

Bishop Bard:
Come, Holy Spirit; Come, Father of the Poor; Come, Mother of the Broken.
Come, Giver of Gifts, fill the hearts of your faithful,
for without your divine power, no good can come from our work.
Wash what is unclean, water what is dry, heal what is wounded.
Bend what is inflexible, warm what is chilled and guide what is astray.
Grant that these persons to be ordained, and that we, your people,
may follow where you lead and live in joyful obedience to your will,
through Jesus Christ, Savior and Healer of the world.

Bishop Bard: Come upon these, your servants.
People: Come upon these, your servants.
Amen.

LAYING ON OF HANDS FOR ORDINANDS: ELDERS

Almighty God, pour upon *Full Name* your Holy Spirit, for the office
and work of an Elder in Christ's holy Church. **Amen.**
Name, take authority as an Elder
to preach the Word of God,
to administer the Holy Sacraments
and to order the life of the Church;
in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**
Bishop Bard: *Full Name*, be an Elder among us.
People: Thanks be to God. Alleluia! .

PRESENTATION OF THE NEWLY ORDAINED

Bishop Bard: As you have placed yourselves into the hands of God

People: And as we have prayed for the Holy Spirit
to empower you for your ministry among us,

Bishop Bard: Fulfill your calling as Elders in Christ's holy Church.

People: Lead us to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

Bishop Bard: Friends in Christ, it is my utmost joy to present to you those we have ordained.
Please receive them with thanksgiving.

MUSICAL RESPONSE

Send Me, Lord UMH 497

Send me, Lord.



Send me Je-sus, send me, Je - sus, send me, Je-sus, send me, Lord.
Thu-ma mi-na, thu - ma mi - na, thu - ma mi-na, So-man - dla.

*HYMN OF SERVICE


The Servant Song

Verse 1: Those newly recognized, commissioned, or ordained sing.


Verse 2-4: The Clergy sing to those being recognized, commissioned, or ordained.

Verse 5: Everyone sings together.

Verse 6: The Bishop sings to us, a cappella.



1., 6. Broth - er, sis - ter, let me serve you, let me be as
2. We are pil - grims on a jour - ney; we're to - geth - er
3. I will hold the Christ - light for you in the night - time
4. I will weep when you are weep - ing; when you laugh, I'll
5. When we sing to God in heav - en, we shall find such



Christ to you; pray that I may have the grace to
on this road. We are here to help each oth - er
of your fear; I will hold my hand out to you,
laugh with you. I will share your joy and sor - row
har - mo - ny, born of all we've known to - geth - er



let you be my ser - vant, too.
walk the mile and bear the load.
speak the peace you long to hear.
till we've seen this jour - ney through.
of Christ's love and ag - o - ny.

All are seated.

INVITATION TO MINISTRY

Bishop Bard:

From our baptism, we are all called to ministry, as disciples of Jesus Christ.

We celebrate the call that God places on all of our lives, through the grace of Jesus Christ.

If you are feeling called to consider ministry as a vocation, you are invited to come forward and be greeted by members of the Board of Ordained Ministry during this time of singing.

*SONGS OF INVITATION

Here I Am Lord UMH 593



- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. I, the Lord of sea and sky,
I who made the stars of night, | I have heard my peo-ple cry.
I will make their dark ness bright. |
| 2. I, the Lord of snow and rain,
I will break their hearts of stone, | I have borne my peo-ple's pain.
Give them hearts for love a - lone. |
| 3. I, the Lord of wind and flame,
Fin-est bread I will pro - vide | I will tend the poor and lame.
Till their hearts be sa - tis - fied. |



All who dwell in dark and sin	My hand will save.
Who will bear my light to them?	
I have wept for love of them.	They turn a - way.
I will speak my word to them,	
I will set a feast for them.	My hand will save.
I will give my life to them.	



Whom shall I send?_____ Here I am Lord._____



_____ Is it I Lord?_____ I have heard you cal-ling in the



night._____ I will go Lord,_____ if you lead me._____



_____ I will hold your peo - ple in my heart.

I Will Follow

By Chris Tomlin, Jason Ingram, and Reuben Morgan

Where You go I'll go, Where You stay I'll stay
When You move I'll move, I will follow (Oh oh oh)

Verse 1

All Your ways are good, All Your ways are sure
I will trust in You alone
Higher than my sight, High above my life
I will trust in You alone

Chorus

Where You go I'll go, Where You stay I'll stay
When You move I'll move, I will follow You
Whom You love I'll love, How You serve I'll serve
If this life I lose, I will follow (You)

Verse 2

Light into the world, Light into my life
I will live for You alone
You're the One I seek, Knowing I will find
All I need in You alone (In You alone)

Chorus

Bridge

In You there's life everlasting
In You there's freedom for my soul
In You there's joy unending joy
And I will follow

Chorus

***PRAYER AND DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING**

Bishop Bard:

We thank you, gracious God, for raising up among us faithful servants.
Clothe them with your righteousness,
and grant that we, with them, may glorify you by giving ourselves to others. **Amen.**

Bishop: The grace of Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you always.
In all that you do, go in peace to serve God and your neighbor.

All: We are sent in Christ's name. Thanks be to God!

***GOING FORTH**

Bishop Bard will lead the recessional. All are invited to follow after the clergy to greet those who have been recognized, commissioned, or ordained today at the reception in the Michigan Ballroom.

Go to the World
Worship & Song #3158

RECESSIONAL



Go to the world! Go in - to all the earth; Go
Go to the world! Go in - to ev' - ry place; Go
Go to the world! Go strug - gle, bless and pray; The
Go to the world! Go as the ones I send, For



preach the cross where Christ re - new's life's worth, Bap -
live the word of God's re - deem - ing grace; Go
nights of tears give way to joy - ful day. As
I am with you till the age shall end, When



ti - zing as the sign of our__ re - birth.
seek God's pre - sence in each time__ and__ space.
ser - vant Church, you fol - low Christ's own__ way.
all the hosts of glo - ry cry__ 'A - men'

Refrain



Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia!

MUSICAL SELECTIONS

Sing a New Church into Being

Text: Delores Dufner, OSB, copyright © 1991 The Sisters of St. Benedict.

Administered by Oregon Catholic Press.

One License Song #83450 | One License No. A-726149 All rights reserved.

Music: NETTLETON, from Wyeth's Repository of Sacred Music, Part II (1813).
Public Domain.

God of Grace and God of Glory

United Methodist Hymnal #577

Text: Harry Emerson Fosdick, 1930. Public Domain.

Music: CYM RHONDDA by John Hughes, 1907. Public Domain.

Lord, You Give the Great Commission

United Methodist Hymnal #584 (stanzas 1 & 2, alt.)

Text: Jeffery W. Rowthorn © 1978. Hope Publishing Company.

380 South Main Place, Carol Stream, IL 60188 (800-323-1049)

CCLI Song #2637095 | CCLI License No. 11547740

Music: CYM RHONDDA by John Hughes, 1907. Public Domain.

Instruments Of Your Peace

Text and Music: Deby Dearman and Kirk Dearman

CCLI Song #1136271 | CCLI License No. 11547740

© 1993 Universal Music - Brentwood Benson Publishing

Expressions Of Praise Music (Admin. by Music Services, Inc.)

Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow (Doxology)

Text: Thomas Ken, 1674. Public Domain.

Music: Geistliche Kirchengesäng, 1623. Public Domain.

Send Me, Lord

Text and Music: traditional South African, Anders Nyberg

One License Song #65065 | One License No. A-726149

The Servant Song

Words and music by Richard Gillard.

©1977 Universal Music - Brentwood Benson Publishing

(Admin. by Brentwood-Benson Music Publishing, Inc.)

CCLI Song #72673 | CCLI License No. 11547740

Here I Am, Lord

Text and Music: Dan Schutte, 1981.

©1981, 1983, 1989 Daniel L. Schutte and NALR

One License Song #80670 | One License No. A-726149

I Will Follow

Text and Music: Chris Tomlin, Jason Ingram, and Reuben Morgan
© 2010 Rising Springs Music (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing)
SHOUT! Music Publishing Australia (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing)
Vamos Publishing (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing)
worshiptogether.com songs (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing)
Spirit Nashville Three (Admin. by Crescendo Royalty Funding LP)
So Essential Tunes (Admin. by Essential Music Publishing LLC)
Spirit Nashville Three (Admin. by Essential Music Publishing LLC)
CCLI Song # 5806878 | CCLI License No. 11547740

Go to the World

Text: Sylvia G. Dunstan
Copyright © 1991, GIA Publications, Inc.
One License Song #01065 | One License No. A-726149
Music: Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1906, Public Domain

Lord, Make Me An Instrument, arr. M. Roger Holland II
© 2001 GIA Publications, Inc.
One License Song #100903 | One License No. A-726149

All are invited to stay and join the reception after the service.

Course of Study Graduates



DANIEL LEE BARKHOLZ

Seminary: Methodist Theological School in Ohio

Home Church: Manistee United Methodist Church

Currently Serving: Manistee United Methodist Church

With compassion for people, I simply desire to help others live in relationship with Jesus Christ. As Pastor, I try to lead by example and I love to connect the church with the community and see God show up in amazing ways. My passion for youth and children's ministry continues after 20 plus years of being a Youth Pastor and Family Discipleship Director.



MICHAEL C. DESOTELL

Seminary: Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary, Methodist Theological School in Ohio

Home Church: Menominee First United Methodist Church

Currently Serving: Grand Rapids Trinity United Methodist Church

My passion for ministry is all about loving God and loving others. I rejoice in the reality that we accomplish the former by succeeding in the latter.



MARK A. HARRIMAN

Seminary: Methodist Theological School in Ohio

Home Church: McGregor United Methodist Church, Deckerville

Currently Serving: Gwinn United Methodist Church



SCOTT HERALD

Seminary: Methodist Theological School of Ohio

Home Church: Trinity - Livingston Circuit

Currently Serving: Fowlerville First United Methodist Church

My passion is centered in worship of the Holy Trinity, the One true God, and more precisely the proclamation of the Good News! Through our words and deeds, we declare our beliefs; I believe in the unending love of God. I believe in and have experienced the transformative power of the Holy Spirit, and I am grateful to be a servant of our Lord and Savior, Jesus the Christ. I believe that by the grace of God thru faith in Jesus Christ, we are saved and will have life forever after with him.



ROBERT L. SNODGRASS II

Seminary: Methodist Theological School in Ohio

Home Church: Hope United Methodist Church

Currently Serving: New Journey United Methodist Church, Morris Chapel United Methodist Church

As I think about my passion for ministry, I cannot help but remember the very first time I spoke at Hope UMC filling in for Rev. Jeff Reese. I remember how the butterflies were taking laps in my stomach. The excitement of sharing Jesus in this very first message that took me weeks to write and rewrite. The concern that I would freeze up and forget everything. I remember Jeff telling me to find a quiet place and pray. I did find that quiet place and prayed for God to lead me and in that moment, I felt the peace that only God could give to me. To this day I find my quiet place to pray before I preach. I am just as excited to share the good news of Jesus today as I was in that very first sermon. I wait every day with the expectation of God's serendipitous movements in this ministry. I live to share Christ's love with those that God puts in my path. Watching, helping, and learning with people as they draw closer to God in their very own personal relationship with God.

**KENNY RAY WALKUP JR**

Seminary: Methodist Theological School in Ohio

Home Church: South Lyon First United Methodist Church

Currently Serving: Walled Lake United Methodist Church

My passion in ministry is to share the story of God's grace and love through the life of Jesus Christ. It is my desire to make his story come alive in a way that is relatable to today's pilgrims on their faith journey. Only when Christ's story burns in our hearts do we have a desire to share it with others. I pray that in our sharing the eyes of the world might be opened to see God in a new light. It is my hope that the sinner becomes the redeemed who becomes the disciple.

**THOMAS J. WALLER**

Seminary: Methodist Theological School in Ohio

Home Church: Farmington First United Methodist Church

Currently Serving: Manchester: Sharon United Methodist Church

My passion for ministry is helping others to witness and experience the presence of God, to come to a place where they will know Jesus not just as a friend but as Lord and Savior, and to assist them in learning how to share their testimony of how God is at work in their life. Calling others to come and follow Jesus and then begin to partner with God as we serve the community together. I enjoy walking alongside others, showing and sharing what love can do, as we support our community through the various missions and activities we do to further the kingdom of God.

**COLEEN DREW WILSDON**

Seminary: United Theological Seminary

Home Church: Byron First United Methodist Church

Currently Serving: Morrice United Methodist Church, Bancroft United Methodist Church

Though a later in life Christian, I've had a heart for service my whole life. It is my prayer to show Jesus' love through actions of support. I have an affinity for mental health and those in poverty. I believe going out into the world is the best way for disciples of Christ to reach those longing for God. I pray God will use me in this capacity as I move to my next appointment.

***RICHARD FOSTER:** Not Pictured

Commissioned Elders

**ANTHONY J.M. BALLAH**

Seminary: Ecumenical Theological Seminary, Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary

Home Church: Grace Community United Methodist Church

Currently Serving: Grace Community United Methodist Church

As our world grapples with the issue of homogeneity on many fronts, the Church of Jesus Christ must endeavor to become ever more vigilant in carrying out the Missio Dei (Mission of God). We cannot become an isolated institution in the midst of the human story.

My passion or role in this mission endeavor is to continue to inspire and encourage dialogue. Through dialogue, I endeavor to creatively explore new expressions of the church in this 21st Century by seeking to share the gospel of Jesus Christ with people who have grown skeptical of religion, or for whom the church no longer seems relevant, but nonetheless are still spiritually hungry. When we accept mission through the framework of dialogue, it allows the church to not only nurture its own theology but also show a willingness to experience the diversity of thoughts from a contextual standpoint. By advancing such practice, I intend to articulate and carry out the mission of God as a call to reason together and the evidence of God's presence.

**JODI MELISSA CARTWRIGHT**

Seminary: Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary

Home Church: Okemos Community Church

Currently Serving: Tecumseh United Methodist Church

My passion for ministry comes from a desire to let people know that we are all beloved children of God. I want people to know that God is bigger than any of the lines that we draw or the boundaries that we create. I try to help people see that there are many ways to understand what we read in the Bible. The religious education I received as a child taught that there was one way to understand scripture and that it was a sign of faithlessness to question that understanding. As I preach and teach, I try to let people know that it is okay to question what they have been taught in the past and even to question what I am currently teaching. I want people to know that we do not have to continue to do things the way that they have always been done in the past, and that part of God's promise of each morning being new is the ability to look at what we have always been taught in new and different ways.

**MARTIN ANDREW JOHNSTON**

Seminary: Sioux Falls Seminary

Home Church: Marshall United Methodist Church

Currently Serving: Algonquin United Methodist, Sault Central United Methodist

I have had a lifelong passion for ministry, preaching my first sermon as a Lay Speaker when I was only 16 years old. In my senior year I wrote my career paper on being a pastor. As the years progressed I served on various committees and taught classes for several different ages. Although I went into a different career path, I always figured there would come a time when I served as a clergy member. That time came in 2014 after earning a certificate in Spiritual Direction, I became a DSA and began down the path of becoming a Licensed Local Pastor. I am grateful for the love and mercy that God has shown me. I consider it a high and holy privilege to journey alongside people as they seek to grow deeper in love with God and neighbor.

Ordained Elders

**JESSICA MAE DAVENPORT**

Seminary: Wesley Theological Seminary

Home Church: Hope Church, Bloomington Illinois

Currently Serving: Portage Chapel Hill United Methodist Church

My passion for ministry is really about connection. I am passionate about connecting people with God and where God is calling us. I am passionate about connecting people with the beauty and meaning of Scripture. I am passionate about connecting people to each other as we do the work of the church with love and justice. This place of connection is at the core of Methodist practice and I think translates into our future together. A guiding question in my ministry is: In a world where God has given us immense abundance, how can we, as the church, connect the dots of God's divine creativity such that everyone has what they need, can thrive and know God's love in a real and meaningful way?

**ERIC MAX FALKER**

Seminary: Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary, United Theological Seminary

Home Church: Tawas United Methodist Church

Currently Serving: Houghton Grace United Methodist Church, Painesdale United Methodist Church

In my long journey from civil engineer to pastor, one truth has stuck with me: All people need Jesus, even if they don't realize it yet. I am so glad Jesus took a chance on me. I am passionate about worshiping God, using my gifts in music and youth ministry, and I look forward to helping the church heal where it is hurting. I am grateful for the loving support of my family, my colleagues, and all the congregations I have served.

**SUSAN ELIZABETH HITTs**

Seminary: United Theological Seminary

Home Church: Alanson United Methodist Church

Currently Serving: Harbor Springs United Methodist Church

I am passionate about connecting faith and everyday life. I believe that the holy and divine shows up in the mundane, we just have to look for it. Therefore, I love accompanying people on the sacred journey of life and discovering where God shows up along the way. God sightings, conversational prayer, and a lifestyle of faith are what sustains me. As a pastor, I seek to help others see where God is in the moment and help them connect to God in their own daily existence. Justice, compassion, and mercy are also very important to me. These all require action and connection with the community around us. Therefore, I seek to see where God calls me, and those around me, to make an active difference in the world and respond by showing up in that place of need. It is my honor to continue a life of faith and service as an Ordained Elder in The United Methodist Church.

**SCOTT WILLIAM MARSH**

Seminary: Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary

Home Church: Reed City United Methodist Church

Currently Serving: Coldwater United Methodist Church

Service out of empathy, music sprouting forth from praise and joy, redemption by God's son, Jesus the Christ. My passion for ministry is to respond to my call to help bring the kin-dom of God here, to follow the Spirit's curious, shuttering, and life giving movements, to grow the love of neighbor and love of God in our world. My passion is impactful and living faith, that through sacraments and worship we are moved and called to do God sized things, beyond what we can dream alone. My passion is new life sprouting forth from chaotic waters, fertile ground broken for a third way, that brings peace and learns of war no more. My passion is inclusion, that keeps the table growing, that all of creation will one day be returned and reunited to the one who made it so. My passion is the constant reforming of the Church to meet people where they are and share the good news of Christ with them today. May God bless this ordination class, may we lead a changing and growing church, may we rejoice in what God has done, is doing, and will do. Amen.

**PAUL CHRISTOPHER REISSMANN IV**

Seminary: Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary

Home Church: Bangor Simpson United Methodist Church

Currently Serving: Lake Odessa Central United Methodist Church

My passion for ministry stems from a call to plant vibrant ministries for the kin-dom of God; to proclaim the gospel wherever I go; and to provide safety and inclusion to all of sacred worth. Through the grace of God that I have experienced through others, I am compelled by this grace to respond to a world unconscious of its own holiness by systems of oppression. I long to quench the thirst God's people experience in this world as they long for justice, meaning, and restoration of their relationship to themselves, others, to God's creation, and also to the sacred heart of Love.



SUZANNE LEE TODD

Seminary: Methodist Theological School in Ohio

Home Church: Brighton First United Methodist Church

Currently Serving: Plymouth First United Methodist Church

I am passionate about being a church that reflects the fullness of God's Kingdom. When you love the Lord your God with all your heart and soul and being, you want to know the fullness of God. And that fullness is reflected in the depth and breadth of God's creation. So when the church lacks any subset of that creation, we are but a shadow of the church that God has called us to be. My passion lies in teaching and preaching and disciplining folks into a more generous orthodoxy.



MICHAEL W. VOLLMER

Seminary: Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary

Home Church: Lockport First United Methodist Church

Currently Serving: Stony Creek United Methodist Church, Macon United Methodist Church

My passion for ministry is to help make everything we do in ministry (worship, outreach, etc.) open and accessible to everyone. From being intentional to incorporate our children and youth in our worship services to being intentional in how information is presented visually and audibly to leading with a hospitality grounded in love, I find my passion in ministry in drawing the circle wide, building a longer table, and working to make everyone feel welcome and included. I am refreshed and renewed when everyone has opportunities to get involved as they are comfortable in being the church and living out our faith authentically. Jesus said that the two greatest commandments are to love God with all of hearts, minds, and very beings, and to love our neighbors as ourselves. I will always start there before I worry about anything else when it comes to ministry, until I can do both perfectly.



JENABA REBECCA DUYMOVIC WAGGY

Seminary: Vanderbilt University

Home Church: Portage Chapel Hill United Methodist Church

Currently Serving: Ann Arbor First United Methodist Church

I feel called to ministry with the people who may not see themselves in the current Church, so I'm not sure the language for my passion for ministry exists yet. I am drawn to the online communities held together by emojis and inside meme jokes and the hope that the Church can be kind, actually; to the queer communities where people long to hear "I'm sorry" and "God loves you" from someone in a clerical collar; to the impromptu lecture-discussions that ask about what our history is and who has been left out of it. I am a teacher, first, and am nearly always ready to talk about the way polity shapes doctrine or how the medieval Church is still influencing Western Christianity. I am a writer, second, and lean into poetry and liturgy to give voice to all the other passions. It is a good thing that God also deals rather a lot in words, loaning me a few so that maybe someone who looks at the doors of the church in fear can hear something that sounds like, "Welcome; we are better for you being here."

Transfer: Elder in Full Membership



BENJAMIN KEVIN SMALLS

Seminary: Interdenominational Theological Center, Atlanta, GA.

Home Church: Ebenezer United Methodist Church, Capitol Hill, Washington, DC

Currently Serving: Southfield: Hope United Methodist Church

For the past three decades I have enjoyed helping congregations maximize their missional potential. I feel the local church is the means in which the world is transformed. I strongly believe in The United Methodist Church and while we serve in a post denominational age I have great joy of re-introducing the gift of Methodism, United Methodism in particular to the contexts to which I've been sent. I am interested in areas of congregational revitalization, liturgical arts, social justice witness and finding creative and innovative strategies to serve the present age. I am also a Methodist history "nerd" and at 14 years old I saved enough money to buy my set of judicial council decisions. I'll always love youth and young adult ministry as a primary vehicle to transform the world as it was through that medium that I found a fresh new life awaiting me.



LAWRENCE J. WILIFORD

Seminary: Methodist Theological School in Ohio

Home Church: Lola Valley United Methodist Church and Comstock United Methodist Church

Currently Serving: Transferring from the Upper NY Conference as a retired Full Elder.

I grew up in the Detroit Conference and was ordained a Deacon and Elder in the West Michigan Conference. I served 45 years in the UM ministry, 14 of those years as an Executive Director in Camp/Retreat Ministries. My passion for ministry grew out of my experience as a C.I.T. at Judson Collins Camp in the Detroit Conference. I have served in Michigan, Wisconsin, Kansas and New York. My wife, Terry Sue, was also an ordained UM minister and passed away in 2020. We retired back to Michigan in 2018.





John Wesley in Georgia 1736 - Image courtesy of National Park Service

A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE UMC IN THE UNITED STATES

In 1735, the Wesley brothers, John and Charles, sailed to Savannah, Georgia to minister to the colonialists and teach the Gospel to Native American tribes. After returning to England in 1737, John Wesley had an experience he described as an 'infilling of the Holy Spirit.' He soon after formed Methodist societies.

In 1784, John began ordaining ministers for America. He sent Thomas Coke to America where he and Francis Asbury founded the Methodist Episcopal Church, which was to later establish itself as the largest denomination in America during the 19th century.

Methodism thrived in America thanks to the First and Second Great Awakenings beginning in the 1700s. In 1939, many of the splintered Methodist groups joined together to form The Methodist Church USA. Another merger in 1968 resulted in the formation of The United Methodist Church from the Evangelical United Brethren (EUB) and the Methodist Church.

Today, The United Methodist Church has over 12 million members worldwide with more than 14,000 congregations. The Michigan Conference, formed from the Detroit Annual Conference and the West Michigan Conference began operating as one community on January 1, 2019. Today, the Michigan Conference serves 721 local churches across the state with over 105,000 professing members.



Is God Calling You For More?

Offering every admitted & enrolled degree-seeking student a 50% off tuition scholarship, Saint Paul School of Theology is a seminary with on-campus, online, and hybrid learning courses serving a diverse community committed to the formation of people for innovative, creative ministry.

Discover More!

913.253.5084 

spst.edu 

admiss@spst.edu 



FOR THE THRIVING OF THE CHURCH AND THE HEALING OF THE WORLD

What's the Next Step in Your Educational Journey?



REQUEST
INFO
TODAY



FULLY ONLINE

- Master of Divinity
- Master of Theological Studies

HYBRID

- Doctor of Ministry
- Master of Arts in Public Ministry
- Master of Arts in Pastoral Care and Counseling
- Master of Arts in Faith, Culture and Educational Leadership



Scholarships between 25–100% of tuition are available for most programs.

MULTIPLE PATHWAYS TO CLAIM YOUR UNIQUE CALL

To live into God's call requires vocational courage, and we'll walk alongside you to help you think creatively and prayerfully about the next step in your calling. Garrett provides a variety of **residential**, **hybrid**, and **online** degree programs, certificates, and continuing education for passionate, creative, and courageous spiritual leaders seeking to make a difference.



Missing something?

Puzzled where you can find hundreds of free local church resources, access to consultants, events, videos, inspirational Michigan ministry and mission newsletters, devotions, appointments, classifieds and more?



Find it all at MichiganUMC.org





#BeKIND



#BeCARING



#BeGENEROUS



#BeFAITH-FILLED



#BeUMC

LEARN MORE ABOUT THE FUTURE OF THE
MICHIGAN CONFERENCE AT bit.ly/futureUMC



Michigan Conference
The United Methodist Church



BISHOP DAVID ALAN BARD

Bishop David Alan Bard is the presiding bishop of the Michigan Conference of The United Methodist Church and serves as President of the North Central Jurisdiction College of Bishops.

He was elected to the episcopacy on July 13, 2016 at the North Central Jurisdictional Conference held in Peoria, IL and appointed to the Michigan Area. In 2022, he was reappointed to the Michigan Area until 2024.

He has been in ministry for almost 40 years and served in many roles within both the Minnesota Annual Conference and the General Church. Prior to arriving in Michigan in September 2016, Bishop Bard was serving at First United Methodist Church in Duluth, Minnesota since 2005. Bishop Bard was a General and Jurisdictional Conference delegate in 2000, 2004, 2008, and 2012. He was an episcopal nominee in both 2004 and 2008.

Within the Minnesota Conference, Bishop Bard was chair of the Episcopacy Committee and the Higher Education Ministry Team, and he served on the Board of Ordained Ministry and the Congregational Response Team. He was also the conference parliamentarian. He was a district superintendent from 1998 to 2005 and spent three years on the Commission on Religion and Race. Bishop Bard also shepherded the Minnesota Annual Conference as interim bishop until 2022.

Within the General Church, Bishop Bard serves on the Study on Ministry Commission, the Committee on Faith and Order, and the North Central Jurisdiction Committee on Episcopacy. He has also previously served on the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry, the Commission on General Conference, and the Commission on Theological Education.

Bishop Bard received a BA from the University of Minnesota, Duluth in 1981; his Master of Divinity was earned at United Theological Seminary, Twin Cities 1984; and in 1994 he received a Ph.D. from Southern Methodist University with a focus on Christian ethics

Bishop Bard has a wife, Julie, three adult children and two grandchildren. In his free time, he enjoys music, reading, baseball, and walking outside.

Bishop David Bard - bishop@michiganumc.org



Michigan Conference

The United Methodist Church