

## **GARY E. ALLRED**

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Address: 104 Ryder Cup Circle Raleigh, NC 27603

Email: gary@hollandsumc.com

Status: Elder in Full Connection

Date of Last Annual Conference Attended: 2010

### PERSONAL INFORMATION:

Served as pastor in NC Annual Conference for 25 years. Married to Lou Ann for 37 years. Two grown children, both living in the northeast and leaders in new faith community launches (Wellesley, MA and New York, NY)

### EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND:

Methodist University, '89, B.A., Religion (summa cum laude)

Duke Divinity School, '93, M. Div., (magna cum laude)

### CHURCH ACTIVITIES:

#### Local Church:

- Lead Pastor of 1200 member congregation with an average worship attendance of 500
- Preach, teach, leadership development, oversee Ministry Support Team, etc.
- Exploring possibility to extend campus to New Faith Community

#### District:

- New Faith Community District Team (current)
- RA District Committee on Church Location and Building (2007 – 2009, chair 2008- 2009)
- RA District Committee on Ordained Ministry (1998 – 2006, chair 1999- 2006)

#### Conference:

- Chair, New Faith Communities Lead Team (current)
- Conference Connectional Table (current)
- Congregational Development Fund, Inc. board member (current)
- Conference Commission on Stewardship (2000-2008)
- Conference Commission on Camping Ministries (1994 – 1998)

### CIVIC & COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES:

- Heart of Carolina Emmaus Community (1994 – current, Community Spiritual Director, 1999-2001)
- Eagle Ridge Community “Empty Nesters”

### WHY YOU BELIEVE YOU SHOULD BE ELECTED:

My passion in ministry is to do all I can to invite and equip people to follow Jesus. I am committed to work for the extension of God’s Kingdom in and through the United Methodist Church. I will employ the gifts with which God has blessed me to do so.

### ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:

Theological stance: Wesleyan Evangelical

# PATRICIA (TRISH) ARCHER

Telephone # 910.791.0353, ext 124

Address: 384 Semmes Dr., Wilmington, NC 28412

Email: [parcher@nccumc.org](mailto:parcher@nccumc.org)

Status: Deacon in Full Connection

Date of Last Annual Conference Attended: June 2010

PERSONAL INFORMATION: I am married to Noah Archer and we have one son, Will, who is a high school junior. Noah and I will celebrate 20 years of marriage this summer.

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND: I graduated in 1993 from Duke Divinity School with a Masters of Divinity. I am also a graduate of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill with a Masters of Arts in Teaching (1987) and a Bachelor of Science in Science Teaching (1982).

## CHURCH ACTIVITIES:

- **Local Church** – I am currently appointed as an associate pastor at Pine Valley UMC-Wilmington where I preach, lead the music team for the contemporary worship service and serve as liturgist. I also direct mission and outreach ministries and serve as the clergy leader for Celebrate Recovery (a Christian 12 Step ministry).
- **District** – I am appointed as Clinical Chaplain with Duke Partners in Caring. In this position, I work with an HIV and substance abuse prevention program in the Wilmington District. I serve on the District Committee of Ordained Ministry (1997-present) and have served as Chair of the Committee since July 2007. I am also a member of the Wilmington District Ministry Table.
- **Conference** – I have served on the Conference Connectional Table since 2008 and currently serve as team leader of the Leadership team. I also serve as Chair of the Administrative Review Committee. I served as Chair of the Order of Deacons from 2000 to 2008. I also served as a member of the Board of Ordained Ministry from 1999-2008, serving on the Executive Committee (2001-2008) as well as related committees (Conference Relations Committee, Sexual Ethics Committee and District Relations Committee).
- **General Church** – I served as a delegate to General Conference 2008 and Jurisdictional Conference 2008. I have taught workshops nationally in the area of spiritual formation, recovery ministry and the ministry of the deacon.

CIVIC & COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES: My husband and I volunteer with the Hoggard High School Marching Band Boosters. I also volunteer with community recovery programs and participate in the regional AIDS Care and Education Services Network.

WHY YOU BELIEVE YOU SHOULD BE ELECTED: I am willing to pray and listen to God's direction as the Church makes decisions for ministry in this changing world. I'm willing to give my time, energy and focus for this important work. It is also my prayer that the 2012 delegation will be representative of our conference with the inclusion of both deacons and elders. If I am elected, it will be my privilege to serve the North Carolina Annual Conference in this way.

## **G. KEVIN BAKER**

10 Sandhurst Court, Durham, NC 27712

Telephone # 919.286.5722

E-Mail: kevin@rumcdurham.org

Home Church: Reconciliation United Methodist Church

Home District: Durham

### **EDUCATION**

1984-1988 B.A., Southern Nazarene University, Bethany, Ok.

1990-1994 M.Div., Duke University Divinity School, Durham, N.C.

### **ORDINATION**

1995 Deacon

1997 Elder

### **APPOINTMENTS**

1994-1997 Creswell Charge: Mt. Hermon, Creswell, and Holly Grove Churches, Creswell, N.C.

1997-2006 Associate, one of two founding pastors of Reconciliation UMC, Durham, N.C.

8/2004-pres. Senior Pastor, Reconciliation UMC, Durham, N.C.

### **CONFERENCE AND DISTRICT**

1995-1997 Member of Conference Commission on Church and Society

1997-2000 Member of Conference Committee on Ethnic Local Church Concerns

2000-2004. Member and Chair of Conference Multicultural Ministries Circle

2001-pres. Member of Conference Hispanic Ministries Circle

1997-2001 Served as member and chair of Durham District Taskforce on Hispanic Ministries

2004-2010 Member of Commission on Congregation Development for NC Annual Conference

2007-2010 Member of Durham District on Superintendency

### **COMMUNITY SERVICE AND MINISTRY**

1994-1997 Volunteer Chaplain for Washington County Correctional Center, Creswell, N.C.

1996-1997 Vice President of Washington County Human Relations Council

1997-pres. Volunteer Chaplain for Durham County Detention Center (City Jail), Durham, N.C.

2000-2003 Spiritual Formation Leader, Duke Divinity School, Durham, N.C.

2000-pres. Active clergy member of Durham C.A.N. (Communities, Associations, and Neighborhoods)

2001-2002 Member of National Design Team for GBGM for a 2002 Conference on Multicultural Ministry: "That We May Be One."

2003-2010 Teaching assistant and Preceptor at Duke Divinity School (fall and spring semesters)

2005-2009 Instructor at Duke Divinity School's Course of Study (summer and weekend COS)

2005-pres. Writing for DBS (Daily Bible Studies), ABS (Adult Bible Studies), and other curriculum for the UM Publishing House

### **WHY YOU BELIEVE YOU SHOULD BE ELECTED:**

I am particularly interested in the global nature of the UM Church's mission and ministry, as well as the unique challenges that we are currently facing as a denomination here in the U.S. in terms of evangelism, outreach, and mission. I would welcome the opportunity to reflect more deeply and prayerfully with other United Methodists around the world about the emphases, issues, and foci that should be guiding us through the next quadrennium and beyond.

# ROBERT ERIC BERGLAND "BOB"

Telephone # 252.977.0400

Address: 100 South Church Street, Rocky Mount, NC 27804

Email: rbergland@nccumc.org

Status: Elder in Full Connection

Date of Last Annual Conference Attended: 2010

PERSONAL INFORMATION: Married to Ellen Mills Bergland for 28 years. We have three children: Eric (married to Hannah Bohlen), Andrew, & Sarah. Ordained Deacon, 1980. Ordained Elder, 1984.

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND: Pfeiffer College – B.A. 1977; Attended Duke Divinity School, 1979; South-eastern Baptist Theological Seminary – M.Div. 1983

## CHURCH ACTIVITIES:

- **Local Church** – Henderson: City Road (1979-83); Bahama: Mt. Bethel (1983-1988); Clinton: Grace (1988-91); Elizabethtown: Trinity (1991-1999); Leader of Bladen County Cooperative Parish (1992-1999); Apex (1999-2005); RM: First (2005-present)
- **District** – Durham DCOM (1987-93); Fayetteville DCOM (1989-91); Wilmington DCOM (1991-1996); Wilmington District Committee on the Superintendency (1992-98); Raleigh District Trustees (2000-05); Rocky Mount Connectional Table (2005-present); Rocky Mount dCOM (2005-present); RM dCOM Chair (2008-present)
- **Conference** – Chair Commission on Worship (1988-93); Conference COM (1987-93); Design Team for Bishop's Seminar on Ministry (1985-93); Chair Commission on Equitable Comp. (1993-01); Board of Evangelism (2005); Board of Pensions (2006-08); Dean of Local Pastor's School (2008-2011); Board of Ordained Ministry (2008-present); Chair of Order of Elders (2008-present);
- **General Church** – World Methodist Evangelism Institute – Havana, Cuba (2004); Cornerstone Herald for World Methodist Evangelism Cornerstone Celebrations; World Methodist Conference in Seoul, Korea (2006); SEJ UMW Regional School (2004/07); UMW School of Christian Mission in Holston Conf (2007); Delegate to 2008 General & SEJ Conferences; World Methodist Council in Durban, South Africa (2011); Gathering of Order Chairs (2009, 2011)

CIVIC & COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES: I have coached and refereed soccer, served as a volunteer fireman, been a member and officer of several civic organizations, championed civil rights in local communities, served on the board of directors of the Apex Chamber of Commerce, served on the Board of Visitors for NC Wesleyan College, and volunteered in community schools.

WHY YOU BELIEVE YOU SHOULD BE ELECTED: For 32 years I have served congregations with average worship attendance ranging from 100 to 1000. More than 2000 persons have united with the United Methodist Church across my ministry, with fully 1/3 being received by profession of faith. I am grounded in the Wesleyan tradition; knowledgeable of the issues facing the United Methodist Church; blessed to have personal relationships with both laity and clergy throughout the United Methodist Church; and convinced that the Holy Spirit is continuing to breathe life and direction into the United Methodist Church for this generation and generations to come.

# ROBERT W. BREWER

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Address: 113 E. Hendrix Street Greensboro NC 27401

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Status: Elder in Full Connection

Date of Last Annual Conference Attended: 2010

**PERSONAL INFORMATION:** I am a life-long United Methodist and have served both the local church and beyond the local church. I currently serve as Campus Chaplain and Instructor of Religion at Greensboro College. I am a contributor to the lectionary commentary publication, Preaching: Word and Witness and the New Interpreters Theological Commentary to be published this fall.

## EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND:

B.S. in Education from Appalachian State University, 1995

Master of Divinity, Candler School of Theology, Emory University, 1999

Doctor of Theology, Emmanuel College, University of Toronto, 2010

## CHURCH ACTIVITIES:

- **Local Church** – Youth Minister at Star UMC 1995 to 1999; Beech Grove-Rhems Charge, New Bern District 1999 – 2001; Guest Preacher at St. Marks United Church and Runnymede United Church, Toronto Canada 2001 – 2005; Guest Preacher at various churches in the WNCC and NCC of the United Methodist Church.
- **District** – Served on the New Bern District Committee for Worship and Audit Committee 1999 – 2001. Started a joint Sunday Night college worship service with the Greensboro District area churches and campus ministries.
- **Conference** – Counselor, workshop Leader, and worship Leader at various Conference Youth Events since 1994 including Kaleidoscope, Breakaway, and ACS. I currently serve on the Commission for Ecumenical Dialogue for the Conference and on the Conference Board of Higher Education and Ministry.

**CIVIC & COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES:** Regularly volunteer with students at various agencies and nonprofits within Greensboro; sponsor and attended the annual Spring Break Trip to Florida and in the past 5 years to New Orleans. Inspirational Speaker for the NC State Jaycees Leadership Conference 2008-2010.

**WHY YOU BELIEVE YOU SHOULD BE ELECTED:** As a younger adult clergy member and a college chaplain, I offer the perspective from young adult ministries and offer knowledge upon engaging and reaching out to a younger generation with the relevant and transformative message of the gospel. I currently teach a History and Theology of Methodism course at Greensboro College to interested and perspective candidates for ministry. Because of this course, I have a vast knowledge of the United Methodist polity, structure, history and theology that can be valuable upon the General Conference level. It would be truly an honor to serve and an opportunity to share with students as well.

**ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:** I believe the United Methodist Church has tended to adopt an identity as a social and institutional body instead of a missional and transformative movement. The United Methodist Church needs to use the resources of its organizational structure to be a church that inspires both young and old to transform their lives, community and the world.

# JAMES L. (JERRY) BRYAN

Telephone # 336.376.1123

741 Kennette Drive, Graham, NC 27253-8214

Email: jlbryan@nccumc.org

Status: Elder in Full Connection

Date of Last Annual Conference Attended: June 2010

## PERSONAL INFORMATION:

Married to Margaret H. Bryan. Two grown children; Native of NC; Life-long Methodist; Have served in ministry since 1960, having served as parish minister, US Army Chaplain (Ret); college teacher; before ministry in business world (sales, metal business)

## EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND:

Graduate of Duke University (BA); Duke Divinity School (BD); Princeton Theological Seminary (M.Th.); NY Theological Seminary (S.T.M.); Drew Univ. School of Theology (D. Min.); Graduate US Army Basic and Career Chaplains' Schools; Graduate Command and General Staff College, Ft. Leavenworth (Masters')

## CHURCH ACTIVITIES:

- **Local Church** – Member of NC Conference; Participant at Cedar Cliff UMC (BU Dist); active in Sunday School, Choir, various committees, Admin. Council, Stewardship Chair; Pastor Emeritus of Cedar Cliff UMC
- **District** – Served Three Interim Pastorates in BU. District; Preach often in local churches throughout the NCC; Active Member of District Retiree Group; Serve as needed by DS
- **Conference** – Currently am serving as the ELECTED Secretary of the NC Conference, having been elected for four(4)quadrennia; Conference Planning Committee; Conference Staff Relations Committee; Older Adult Ministries Committee; and over the years various committees appointed by the bishop; Active across several areas of the AC with various constituent groups, by virtue of the elected office I hold.
- **General Church**- Active with AC Secretaries throughout the General Church, and have been for 14 years; Work with other Conferences and groups within the Connection to keep current with workings of the UMC throughout the world.

## CIVIC & COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES:

Regular participant in community and civic activities that affect the life of the local and extended community. I work across ethnic and cultural lines, as I have an affinity for persons of various backgrounds. I undertake to initiate programs and projects that will improve our local areas and the extended world around us.

## WHY YOU BELIEVE YOU SHOULD BE ELECTED:

I believe that my experience as a local pastor, as an US Army Chaplain, as a teacher in college, as the elected Secretary of the NC Conference (4 times), with a working knowledge of the United Methodist Church and its reach and outreach, gives me an unique understanding of the various entities that make our UMC a leader in the teaching and preaching of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. I have a proven ability to work across the various demarcation lines of today's society, to accomplish good for mankind. I seek to make the world a better place for all people, and I believe that the UMC is a vehicle that God can and does use to accomplish this.

## STATEMENT OF PHILOSOPHY AND/OR BELIEFS:

I am a committed Christian, reared in the Methodist tradition. I believe the Holy Bible is God's word for man and that the Church is a way to share it. I believe that the Wesleyan tradition is a practicable way to live as God wants us to do. I believe that in our differences, we need each other and want each other, and that no one is left out of God's care. In my living and working, I believe, I am called to give the Gospel life.

## **RICHARD BRYANT**

Telephone # 919.833.7466

Address: 1301 Mordecai Drive Raleigh, NC 27604

Email: richardlbryant@gmail.com

Status: Elder in Full Connection

Date of Last Annual Conference Attended: 2010

### **PERSONAL INFORMATION:**

Current Appointment 2009-present Pastor-Trinity United Methodist Church Raleigh, NC

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND: BA UNC-Greensboro 1996, MDIV Duke University 1999

### **CHURCH ACTIVITIES:**

- Local Church
- District
  - 2009-present Member, Raleigh Board of Trustees
  - 2010-present Chairperson, Raleigh District Board of Trustees
- Conference
- General Church – Area Representative, General Board of Global Ministries Eurasia Area Moscow, Russia

### **CIVIC & COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES:**

Pastor of a United Methodist Church, a key civic and community organization that feeds the hungry, clothes the naked, teaches English as a second language, and houses the homeless.

### **WHY YOU BELIEVE YOU SHOULD BE ELECTED:**

It is important that someone in their mid 30's, an often invisible demographic be given a voice at this level of denominational decision making. I believe I possess an objective viewpoint and can help make responsible decisions about the denomination's future. After service as a GBGM missionary and as a pastor in the United States I believe I have a keen awareness of the issues facing Methodism in the United States and abroad.

### **STATEMENT OF PHILOSOPHY AND/OR BELIEFS:**

If we are serious about reform and renewal, then we need to be electing a generation of people to general and jurisdictional conference who have the vision to carry out that reform immediately and over the long term.

## **MARTY J. CAULEY**

Telephone # 252.955.6200

Address: 720 Eagles Terrace, Rocky Mount, NC 27804

Email: [marty@martycauley.org](mailto:marty@martycauley.org)

Status: Elder in Full Connection

Date of Last Annual Conference Attended: 2010

### **PERSONAL INFORMATION:**

Being the son of a mother raised in the Methodist Orphanage in Raleigh, NC my ties to North Carolina Methodism go back for generations with a family full of lay preachers and class leaders from the old Boone Hill Township of NC (now Princeton, NC).

### **EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND:**

DMin, Concentration in Church & Culture, Columbia Theological Seminary, Decatur, Ga. 2009

MDiv, The Divinity School, Duke University, Durham, NC 1999

BS in Social Work, East Carolina University, Greenville, NC 1994

### **CHURCH ACTIVITIES:**

- Local Church – I have served a variety of churches since my first appointment in 1992. Having served rural, suburban, and urban congregations ranging in size from eight to more than two hundred I am keenly aware of the struggles and issues facing the local church.
- District – I have served as district coordinator of youth ministries, congregational development, and evangelism in four districts across the NC Conference.
- Conference – More than a decade ago I began serving the North Carolina Conference on the Commission on Evangelism. Realizing that the local church is the hope of the world, I was instrumental in designing the first Academy of Christian Witness that continues to train pastors and lay persons in effective evangelism strategies. Additionally I have served as an adult on the CCYM, and have served on design teams and staff at dozens of conference sponsored youth events.
- General Church – I was privileged to spend five years as the Southeastern Jurisdiction Director of Ministry with Young People. Working for the SEJ allowed me to work with a variety of General and Jurisdictional Church organizations. I served on the SEJ Congregational Development team, coordinated the SEJ Youth/Young Adult Coordinators Networking Group, facilitated the SEJ Multi-Cultural event at Lake Junaluska, and assisted with the coordination of other events including the SEJ Conference, SEJA NAM's annual events, and planned and implemented all SEJ youth events.

### **CIVIC & COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES:**

In every community I have lived I have served locally. Currently I serve on the City of Rocky Mount Revitalization Team, Nash Community Hospitals Clergy Advisory Team, and on the City Branding and Marketing team, as well as participate in Leadership Rocky Mount I am also a member of the Board of Directors for both Habitat for Humanity and the Agape Village Foundation.

### **WHY YOU BELIEVE YOU SHOULD BE ELECTED:**

The local church is the hope of the world. It is the only organization that can reach into every community and make a difference spiritually, socially, and culturally. Having worked with all levels of the General Church I believe that I would be able to advocate for the needs and ministries of the local church and assist those agencies to realize that they serve best when they resource and serve the local church.

### **STATEMENT OF PHILOSOPHY AND/OR BELIEFS:**

As I strive to be a faithful United Methodist I embrace an evangelical faith balanced with a desire to bring justice and be in mission with those around the corner and around the world.



## **A. GENE COBB, JR.**

Telephone # 919.775.3288

2916 Wicker St. Sanford, North Carolina 27330

Email: agcobb@nccumc.org

Status: Elder in Full Connection

Date of Last Annual Conference Attended: June 10-12, 2010

### **PERSONAL INFORMATION:**

My first interim supply appointment was at age 18 in 1977. I have served thirty-one (31) consecutive service years under episcopal appointment years since 1979 in five of our twelve districts. I am a life-long United "Methodist." Hood Theological Seminary invited me to assist in teaching through the Doctor of Ministry Program immediately after my graduation where I am now in my third year.

### **EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND:**

Bachelor of Arts in Religion UNC-Chapel Hill, (1979)

Master of Divinity Duke Divinity, Durham, (1983)

Doctor of Ministry Hood Theological Seminary, Salisbury, NC (2008)

### **CHURCH ACTIVITIES:**

- Local Church – Senior Pastor of St. Luke United Methodist Church, Sanford, NC
- District – Member of District Committee on Ordained Ministry
- Conference – Member of the NC Annual Conference Episcopacy Committee
- General Church – None at this time, but would serve if asked or elected

### **CIVIC & COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES:**

Over the years, I have given personal time and financial support to many benevolent causes in the community serving as the leader of many organizations like Louisburg Interfaith Council, Montgomery County Churches in Action, Crisis Ministry Center of Nash and Edgecombe Counties and was one of the founders of Warren County Cooperative Ministries. I have served as a Trustee and Instructor at Louisburg College, served as Institutional Leader the churches I served for the Boy Scouts and Cub Scouts in Sanford, Durham, Louisburg, Wilson, and Mount Gilead. As a freemason, I served on the Board of Directors of the Masonic Home for Children at Oxford, NC where I was a part of the team that integrated and made the Board inclusive both of gender and race to which I am firmly committed.

### **WHY YOU BELIEVE YOU SHOULD BE ELECTED:**

I want to be elected and truly believe that my passion for and dedication to the local church; experience in the North Carolina Annual Conference; leadership for more than three decades exemplified by full payment of World Service and Apportioned funds every year; life-long loyalty to process, polity and doctrine of the United Methodist Church, and support for both the clergy and laity of this Annual Conference could prove very helpful at this time at the General level and valuable at the next Jurisdictional Conference.

**STATEMENT OF PHILOSOPHY AND/OR BELIEFS:** Jesus Christ is Lord, most especially of the Church which He has set apart to share the good news of life, love, and forgiveness with the world!

# EDGARDO COLÓN-EMERIC

1120 Orange Factory Road, Bahama, NC

Telephone: 919-471-9181

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Status: Elder in Full Connection

Date of Last Annual Conference Attended: 2010

PERSONAL INFORMATION: Married to Cathleen 18 years. We have two children: Nate and Ben. Ordained deacon in 1998, elder in 2000.

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND: Cornell University (B.S., 1990), University of Vermont (M.S., 1994), Duke Divinity School (M.Div., 1997), Duke University (Ph.D., 2008).

## CHURCH ACTIVITIES:

- **Local Church** – Charge Conference, Reconciliation UMC (2002-Present), Durham District; Pastor, Cristo Vive UMC (1997-2002), Durham District.
- **District** – Member, Durham District Committee on Ordained Ministry (2008-present).
- **Conference** – Member, Board of Ordained Ministry (2008-present); Board of Managers for the Convocation and Pastors School at Duke Divinity School (2010-present). Director of the Thriving Hispanic House of Studies at Duke Divinity School (2007-present).
- **General Church** – Member, General Commission on Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns (2008-present); Member of United Methodist-Roman Catholic Ecumenical Dialogue; Co-Chair of joint committee for implementation of UMC-ELCA Full Communion agreement. Professor of Theology at Duke Divinity School (2007-present). Director of Methodist Course of Study Program in El Salvador (2010-present).

CIVIC & COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES: Chair of the board of Latino Community Credit Union, a North Carolina based non-profit offering financial services to underserved populations (2009-present).

## WHY YOU BELIEVE YOU SHOULD BE ELECTED:

I do not believe that I can provide adequate reasons for why I should be elected, that would be presumptuous on my part. But if elected, what I would contribute to the church's spiritual conferencing is my service in theological education, my work in ecumenism, my passion for ethnic reconciliation, my love for the church, and my commitment to the truth of the good news of Jesus Christ.

## WHAT I BELIEVE:

At the risk of redundancy, I am a Trinitarian, Christocentric, Wesleyan, Christian who is convinced that the gospel entrusted to the church has the power to transform sinners into saints. In the midst of denominational decline, I do not lose hope. I believe that God is not finished with the people called Methodist. We still have a story to tell to the nations.

From my experience among Methodists in Latin America, I have come to believe that the Methodist message will gain in power and credibility as we learn from the witness of United Methodist churches around the globe, from the history of our Methodist heritage, and above all, as we learn to listen to God. In sum, I believe that a more vital United Methodism will be more global, more Wesleyan, and more prayerful.

# MICHAEL COPPOCK

Telephone # 919.770.7095

755 New Ball Park Road, Princeton, North Carolina 27569

Email: agcobb@nccumc.org

Status: Elder in Full Connection

Date of Last Annual Conference Attended: 2010

## PERSONAL INFORMATION:

I am currently pastor at Princeton UMC in Princeton, NC. I have a wonderful wife, Krysti, who is a nursing instructor at Johnston Community College. As one of the young elders within the annual conference, I believe I bring a new and fresh perspective on how to tackle the issues facing the United Methodist Church.

## EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND:

1998, Tennessee Wesleyan College, BA

2002, Duke University Divinity School, MDiv

I am currently enrolled at Campbell University Divinity School finishing DMIN in Church Growth and Development with a concentration on sacramental theology and its place in developing community. I will be finishing my project in April and will defend it over the summer.

## CHURCH ACTIVITIES:

- Local Church  
I serve as pastor of Princeton UMC where I manage a staff of three individuals working with the ministry of the congregation.
- District – I currently serve as the Education Coordinator on the District Connectional Table. I have been in that capacity for three years and helped to bring the Goldsboro District into the Clergy Health Initiative as a pilot program.
- Conference – I serve on the Board of Higher Education.
- General Church – none.

## CIVIC & COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES:

I have been part of the Princeton Lions Club for three years. I have also served as a den leader in the local Cub Scout pack. I was president of the Princeton Area Ministerial Association for two years. This is a group of twenty community churches that work to bring the community together for Jesus Christ. We have had successful events such as Community Day where churches celebrated their ministries in downtown Princeton. We also had "Arms Around Princeton" which was a day of community projects in the community.

## WHY YOU BELIEVE YOU SHOULD BE ELECTED:

I believe I should be elected because younger clergy within the United Methodist Church are not having their voices heard. It is important that a delegation have representatives from all aspects of the clergy. With only 5% of ordained elders being under the age of 35, it is imperative that there is input for those elders who are under 35 not just on an annual conference level but on the General Conference level as well.

## **M. FRANCIS DANIEL**

Telephone # 910.762.0400

2201 Lynnwood Drive, Wilmington, NC 29403

Email: francisdaneil@nccumc.org

Status: Elder in Full Connection

Date of Last Annual Conference Attended: June 2010

### **PERSONAL INFORMATION:**

Married for 38 years to Gail. Three Children and five grand children

### **EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND:**

Bachelor of Science in Business Management – Pembroke State University

Masters of Divinity – Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary

### **CHURCH ACTIVITIES:**

- Local Church – I have been a pastor for 33 years and I am presently serving in my sixth appointment
- District – I have served on various district committees such as, Committee on Superintendency, Committee on Ordained Ministry, District Youth Coordinator as well as many task forces and committees for various functions.
- Conference – I have served on the Conference Council on Youth Ministry, a consultant with the Vitalization Project, Commission of Evangelism and Board of Ordained Ministry.

### **CIVIC & COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES:**

In every community I have served I have tried to engage in ministry beyond the local church. I have been in the Kiwanis Club, involved in founding the 4 C's Food Pantry in Hampstead and established a National Day of Prayer Breakfast in Kinston among other things.

### **WHY YOU BELIEVE YOU SHOULD BE ELECTED:**

I believe that my years as pastor in addition to the experience I have gained in serving in my present role has offered me the unique perspective of seeing the impact of our ministry at various levels. It has also helped me see the need for the general church and the local church to become more clearly connected. I think that I can serve the church well in this capacity.

### **STATEMENT OF PHILOSOPHY AND/OR BELIEFS:**

I am deeply Wesleyan. I believe that the message of grace that we offer is a message that the world longs to hear. It is founded upon Scripture and holding the primacy of Scripture as sacred is consistently Wesleyan as well. I believe that it is through the local congregation that this message is best shared in keeping with the Great Commission of Jesus Christ to go into all the world and make disciples. Through the local church, every believer should find the means of grace evident through which he/she continues to grow spiritually into the image in which they were created, even the image of Christ.

# EDGAR DE JESUS

Telephone #910.568.4795

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Email: edgardj@msn.com

Status: Elder in Full Connection

Date of Last Annual Conference Attended: 2010

## PERSONAL INFORMATION:

Married to Judy De Jesus with two children, Kristina Esther and Kairos Elaine First and only Filipino-Asian Clergy Member of the NC Conference. Ordained Elder-NC Conference, 2003.

## EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND:

BS in Social Sciences major in Economics & Political Science (University of the Philippines, 1986); Master of Business Administration (De La Salle University, 1990); Master of Divinity (Duke Divinity School, Duke University, 2000).

## CHURCH ACTIVITIES:

- Local Church – Lead Pastor, Cornerstone UMC (2010-present); Pastor, Mt. Zion UMC (2006-2010); Pastor of Mission, Edenton St. UMC (2003-2006); Pastor, Saxapahaw UMC (2000-2003).
- District – Member, Fayetteville District Evangelism Team (2010-present); Member, Raleigh District Committee on Superintendency (2003-2006). Member, Raleigh District Board of Missions (2003-2006).
- Conference – Chairperson, Conference Commission on Christian Unity & Interreligious Concerns ; Member, Conference Connectional Table; Member; Conference Leadership Team; Advisory Team, Academy for Leadership Excellence; Fellow, Academy for Leadership Excellence Leadership Fellows Program.
- General Church – Page, 2008 General Conference, Delegate, 2008 Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference; Observer, 2004 General Conference; Page, 2000 General Conference; Lay Delegate of Philippines Annual Conference, 1992 & 1996 General Conference; Delegate, 2011 World Methodist Council & Conference (South Africa); Delegate, 2010 National Federation of Asian-American United Methodists Assembly. Participant, 2006 World Council of Churches Assembly (Brazil); Delegate, 1998 World Council of Churches Assembly (Zimbabwe); Delegate, 1997 World Methodist Evangelism Institute (USA); Steward, 1991 World Council of Churches Assembly (Australia).

CIVIC & COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES: Member, North Carolina AME, AMEZ, CME, Episcopal-United Methodist Dialogue; Chairperson, Task Force on Change the World Community Empowerment Day.

## WHY YOU BELIEVE YOU SHOULD BE ELECTED:

I served as Page to the 2008 General Conference and Delegate to the 2008 Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference. As a Filipino-Asian pastor, I humbly believe that my extensive church leadership experiences in the local and global contexts will contribute to the richness, diversity and freshness of the theological conversations and decision-making processes in the General and Jurisdictional Conferences.

STATEMENT OF PHILOSOPHY AND OR/BELIEFS: I live a life under the Triune Lordship of Jesus Christ. I am called to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. I am strongly Wesleyan in belief and theology, adhering to the power of God's grace— the connection of faith and good works that sustains our passion for mission and witness. I advocate for unity and inclusiveness with strong commitment to transformational leadership, missional evangelism and ecumenical relations.

# **GAYLE CARLTON FELTON**

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Status: Elder in Full Connection

Date of Last Annual Conference Attended: 2010

## **PERSONAL AND EDUCATIONAL INFORMATION:**

I am a lifelong resident of North Carolina with experience in churches of all sizes. I attended N.C. Wesleyan College where I majored in history and English. My first ministry – and I do consider it ministry – was teaching in high school for fifteen years. After experiencing a call to ordained ministry, I attended Duke Divinity School (M.Div, 1982) and stayed at Duke to earn my Ph.D. in the history of Christianity (1987). I taught for two years at Meredith College and then returned to Duke on the faculty for fifteen years. For several years, I worked with the Office of Worship Resources of the GBOD. I am now retired and serving at Calvary UMC as Minister of Christian Formation.

## **CHURCH ACTIVITIES:**

I have worked in the church at all levels for many years. Perhaps my most significant contribution to the life of the UMC is my authorship of the church's official interpretive documents on the sacraments: *By Water and the Spirit: A United Methodist Understanding of Baptism* and *This Holy Mystery: A United Methodist Understanding of Holy Communion*. The theology and practice of the sacraments has been deeply influenced throughout the connection by these documents after they were approved by general conferences.

My other important contribution to the life of the church comes through my writings of many articles and five books on Methodist history and sacramental theology. I have never been interested in writing purely for the academy; I write for the church, as the titles of my books indicate: *This Gift of Water: The Practice and Theology of Baptism in Methodism in America*, *By Water and the Spirit* (with commentary and study guide), *This Holy Mystery* (with commentary and study guide), *The Coming of Jesus*, and *How United Methodists Study Scripture*.

I have also been, and continue to be, very involved in the activities of the Reconciling Ministries Network which is a caucus group working toward full inclusion of all persons, regardless of sexual orientation or sexual identity, within the UMC.

## **WHY YOU BELIEVE YOU SHOULD BE ELECTED:**

My strongest qualification for election as a delegate is my knowledge – both theoretical and practical -- of the United Methodist Church. I taught United Methodist theology, doctrine, polity, and current issues to seminarians for fifteen years at Duke. I have also taught at Candler School of Theology and Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary. I have preached and taught in 38 of the church's 63 annual conferences. This wide experience enables me to understand the church in all parts of the connection.

I have attended six general conferences, beginning in 1988, and several jurisdictional conferences. At some of these conferences I was a staff person for the GBOD and at others, a volunteer. I have also been a delegate to Jurisdictional Conference,

Another important part of my experience is with the Judicial Council. I have written briefs submitted to the Council and, on two occasions, have presented oral arguments at its sessions.

I know Methodism – its theology and practice, and its politics and lobbying. I am acquainted with many persons in other annual conferences. I would use this knowledge and experience on behalf of the North Carolina Annual Conference and the larger church.

## **R. CARL FRAZIER, JR.**

Telephone # 919-467-1861

Address: 117 S. Academy Street, Cary, NC 27511

Email: cfrazier@nccumc.org

Status: Elder in Full Connection

Date of Last Annual Conference Attended: 2009

### **PERSONAL INFORMATION:**

I grew up in Wilson, N.C. and attended West Nash UMC. I have been married to Mary-Ellen Beasley Frazier since 1979. We have two daughters: Elizabeth, director of youth ministries at Apex UMC, and Ellen, a senior at Meredith College/

### **EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND:**

B.A. from Barton College (formerly Atlantic Christian College), 1980; Master of Divinity from Duke Divinity School, 1984; Doctor of Ministry from Princeton Theological Seminary, 2003.

### **CHURCH ACTIVITIES:**

- Local Church – I have been under appointment in the North Carolina Conference since 1980. My appointments include: Pleasant Green (Durham); Trinity associate (Durham); Battleboro-Clark Street Charge; Saint Francis (Cary); Hay Street (Fayetteville); Saint Luke (Sanford); Superintendent, Elizabeth City District; and, currently, First (Cary).
- District – I have served on a variety of district boards and committees including the District Committee on Ordained Ministry, the District Committee on Superintendency, district youth coordinator, and on the District Council on Ministries
- Conference – In addition to having served as a staff member at numerous conference youth events, I have served on the Conference Board of Education (1985-88), the Conference Board of Ordained Ministry (1987-95), the Conference Council on Finance and Administration (1996-2004, vice chair 1996-2000, chair 2000-2004), the United Methodist Foundation Board of Directors (1996-2006), the Conference Board of Higher Education (2004-2008), the Conference Commission on Equitable Compensation (2008 – present) and the Board of Trustees of Methodist University (2005 – present)
- General Church – Delegate to the 2004 and 2008 General Conferences; delegate to the 2000, 2004, and 2008 Southeastern Jurisdictional Conferences; member of the Board of Directors of the United Methodist Publishing House, 2004 – present.

### **CIVIC & COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES:**

I have been a member of civic clubs and organizations in communities where I have served. I served on the Board of the Lee County Educational Foundation and on the Advisory Board for the Lee County YMCA. I am currently involved in the Cary Area Ministerial Association and serve on the Advisory Board of Dorcas Ministries in Cary.

### **WHY YOU BELIEVE YOU SHOULD BE ELECTED:**

I believe that my commitment to the ministry of the local church, combined with my past experience of service to the general church, is a helpful perspective from which to address the issues facing this General Conference as we seek to move into a new future as a movement.

# THOMAS M. GREENER

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Status: Elder in Full Connection

Date of Last Annual Conference Attended: June, 2010

## PERSONAL INFORMATION:

Married to Karen since 1986

Two children: Nathan (18) and Sarah (16)

## EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND:

B.A. – Vanderbilt University (1986); Major: Classical Studies Minor: Religious Studies

M.Div. – Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary (1990)

M.A. – Duquesne University Institute of Formative Spirituality (1992)

D.Min. – Wesley Theological Seminary (2003); Focus: Pastoral Leadership

## CHURCH ACTIVITIES:

- Local Church –  
1991-96 – Perryopolis Charge (3 point charge in Western Pennsylvania)  
1996-98 – Butler: First (Western Pennsylvania)  
1998-2000 – Wesley Memorial (Wilmington) – Associate Pastor  
2000-07 – Faith Harbor (New Bern) – Founding Pastor  
2007-Present – Mt. Sylvan (Durham) – Senior Pastor

I have been involved in a wide range of activities at the District, Conference, and General Church level. Currently, I serve as chair of Durham District Committee on Ordained Ministry, I have served as chair of the New Bern District Council on Ministries, and Vice-chair of the DCOM in Western Pennsylvania. I also have been a part of district Committees on Building and Location in both New Bern and Durham districts. At the conference level, I currently serve on the Rules Committee and as chair of the Stewardship Circle for the CCT. I have been a part of Congregational Development and Commission on Evangelism as well. I have also been involved with the Walk to Emmaus for over 25 years, having served in a variety of roles, including aiding in the formation of three communities.

## CIVIC & COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES:

Organized Com-UNITY Celebration (1997) in Butler, PA in response to KKK Rally.

Member of Kiwanis Club

Member of Board of Directors for Open Gate (Wilmington Domestic Violence Shelter; won Board Member of the Year, 2000)

Topsail Island Person of the Year, 2002

## WHY YOU BELIEVE YOU SHOULD BE ELECTED:

I believe that these are crucially important times for our connection as we begin to move into a whole new era of our life together. We need to live to face honestly what the Bishops Call to Action has described as a “creeping crisis of relevancy.” I love our heritage as Wesleyans and want to be a part of moving our connection into new forms for faithfulness for a new age.

## STATEMENT OF PHILOSOPHY AND/OR BELIEFS:

I am open to a variety of ideas and do not think I can describe my philosophy or beliefs in a few words. I want to invest myself and my life in the people around me so that we can all experience the more of the Kingdom of God.



## **DAVID L. HARVIN**

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320 Hay Street, Fayetteville, NC 28302  
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Status: Elder in Full Connection

Date of Last Annual Conference Attended: 2009

### **PERSONAL INFORMATION:**

Married to Sue Hartnett Harvin, two children: Anna and Tyler, two grand children: Mason and Issabella

### **EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND:**

BA from UMC-Chapel Hill 1973, M.Div, from Wesley Theological Seminary , 1977

### **CHURCH ACTIVITIES:**

- Local Church - Pastor, Hay Street United Methodist Church
- District - Chair, District Team on Ministry,
- Conference - Member, Conference Board of Church and Society
- General Church - National Board Member: Christians for Fair Witness In The Middle EastAn ecumenical Peace organization

Supporter and Consultant:

Stop Hunger Now, Inc. - A World Wide Hunger Organization I helped bring to North Carolina

### **CIVIC & COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES**

- Member of BRAC outreach committee, member of Fayetteville Chamber of Commerce,

### **WHY YOU BELIEVE YOU SHOULD BE ELECTED:**

I work for a just peace in the Holy Land and self-determination for both Israel and the Palestinians. I believe in a negotiated homeland for both peoples. I reject boycott of Israel and will work against such measures at General Conference. The North Carolina Conference should be a leader in this area.

### **STATEMENT OF PHILOSOPHY AND/OR BELIEFS:**

I have been a peace advocate and mission entrepreneur for many years as well as serving local churches in the North Carolina Annual Conference. A significant issue for our denomination is support for peace in the Middle East. We are at a critical juncture in this matter. I would be pleased to represent the Conference as we work toward this mission of God's grace.

## **STEVEN A. HICKLE**

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Status: Elder in Full Connection

Date of Last Annual Conference Attended: 2010

### **PERSONAL INFORMATION:**

Native of Iowa, entire career in NC; married to Peggy, retired school media specialist; father of Jesse, a music therapist in Merrillville, IN; play trumpet, hike, fish.

### **EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND:**

BS in fisheries and wildlife biology, Iowa State, '72; MDiv, Garrett-Evangelical, '75. Continuing education at Duke, workshops, etc.

### **CHURCH ACTIVITIES:**

- Local Church – began Sunday Night LIVE! in 1993, an alternative service reaching out to de-churched, recovering addicts, people with mental illnesses, and musicians; trumpet playing member of the Fairmont Gospel Revue, founded in 1998 (both SNL! and FGR still going); numerous work teams to MS, SC, and NC; and all the usual preacher stuff.
- District – Active on and chaired Raleigh Board of Missions; original team for Race of Grace; board, Walnut Terrace Child Development Center (now closed); initial district work team to D'Iberville.
- Conference – Comm. on Archives & History, '77-'84, chaired for 4 yrs, also NC Conf. Historical Society; Bd of Church & Society, '84-'92, chaired for 4 yrs; board, Conference Summer School, 6 yrs
- General Church – delegate to SEJ 2000, 2004, 2008.

### **CIVIC & COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES:**

Served on board of Stop Hunger Now (housed at Fairmont, 2000-2011) for six years, chaired for three; convener for Congregations for Social Justice (affordable housing, prisoner re-entry); second vp of NC Council of Churches; working in mental health reform on local and state level; defending education from resegregation; six years on board of Urban Ministries of Wake County; six years on board of Mission House for Women (post incarcerated, recovering from addictions), chair for five.

### **WHY YOU BELIEVE YOU SHOULD BE ELECTED:**

Should members of the annual conference so choose, I am available to represent a wide ranging experience in our conference, in the community, and beyond. I want to be a voice for the voiceless, articulating the compassion of the NC conference to honor "the least of these," in whom we see the presence of Jesus.

### **STATEMENT OF PHILOSOPHY AND/OR BELIEFS:**

In the spirit of John Wesley, our Methodist movement is a big tent. There is room for all of God's children. May we all together go on to perfection.

## BETH H. HOOD

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Status: Elder in Full Connection

Date of Last Annual Conference Attended: June 2010

**PERSONAL INFORMATION:** I am a native of Carrboro, NC who began serving as clergy in the NC Conference in 1992. Paul Hood and I have been married for 15 years and we have one son, Adam, who is in the sixth grade.

**EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND:** I am a graduate of the University of NC at Chapel Hill and the Divinity School of Duke University.

### CHURCH ACTIVITIES:

- **Local Church** – I have served as pastor in a variety of settings from a small rural congregation to a mid-sized town church and a staff member of a large membership congregation.
- **District** – I have served on the district committee of ordained ministry, district committee on superintendency, district ministry table, and chaired the district Board of Missions. I am trained as a candidacy mentor and have served in that capacity for many years.
- **Conference** – I have served on the NC Conference Equitable Compensation Committee, Board of Ordained Ministry, Connectional Ministry Table, Conference Secretarial Staff, and Task Force for Healthy Congregations & Effective Leaders. I served as secretary, vice-chair, and chair of the Board of Ordained Ministry and now serve as a Cabinet Representative to the Board. I am presently serving as vice-chair of the Conference Episcopacy Committee and member of the Board of Trustees for United Methodist Retirement Homes Inc. In 2007 I joined the Cabinet and presently serve as superintendent of the Greenville District.
- **General Church** – delegate to Jurisdictional Conference in 2004 & 2008; delegate to General Conference in 2008; presently serving on the Southeastern Jurisdictional Episcopacy Committee

**CIVIC & COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES:** I serve on the Board of Directors for the Wesley Foundation of Greenville and the Local Committee of Cypress Glen Retirement Home. My husband and I are involved in activities related to our son's participation with East Carolina University's String Project (music dept.), Pitt County Schools, and the Greenville Recreation & Parks Department.

**WHY YOU BELIEVE YOU SHOULD BE ELECTED:** Election as a delegate would allow me to partner with other servants of the church to discover, dream, and live into the destiny of God's design/desire for our denomination. My wide range of past experience as pastor, superintendent, and delegate has prepared me to serve with eyes wide open and with a heart eager to lean into a future with hope. I know that service as an effective delegate will require diligent reading, careful study, intercessory prayer, team work, and wise discernment, all of which I am willing to offer.

# JERRY ADDISON JACKSON

Telephone # 336-227-4890

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Status: Elder in Full Connection

Date of Last Annual Conference Attended: June, 2010

## PERSONAL INFORMATION:

Grew up in Lumberton, NC, as a member of Chestnut Street UMC. Married to Annette Rogers Jackson of Manteo, NC for 29 years. Two Children: Doris (Director of Student Activities at Methodist University) and Jerianne (Master Degree Student at the University of North Carolina at Pembroke)

## EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND:

B.A. Methodist University – 1975 (Religion Major); M.Div. – United Theological Seminary – 1978 (Biblical Studies & Outdoor & Retreat Ministry) – D. Min. – United Theological Seminary – 2000 – Biblical Studies for New Christians

## CHURCH ACTIVITIES:

- **Local Church** -Marietta: Olivet (Student Pastor) – 1970; Camp Director at Camp Rockfish -1972; Fairview (Dayton, Ohio) Student - 1976; Wanchese (Bethany) – 1978; Newland-Grace -1982; Oak Grove (Roxboro) - 1984; Pilmoor Memorial -1988; Queens Creek-1992; Queens Creek-Oak Grove(Hubert) -1994; Northwoods -1998 – Providence 2002; Bellemont: Senior Pastor – 2007.
- **District** – Elizabeth City New Bern District New Church Committee; Building & Church Location, Chair of New Bern District Habit for Humanity Home Committee; Goldsboro District Board of Ministry; Burlington District Building & Church Location
- **Conference** – Camp Don-Lee Local Camping Committee - Disaster Response Committee – 1989 – 1998 & 2002-2005 – Chair 1994-1998 Commission on Evangelism – 2008 to present - Received the Harry Denman Evangelism Award in 2010; Led Volunteers in Mission work teams to Mexico, Jamaica, St. Croix, Belize, & Panama
- **General Church** – Attended 19 Congress on Evangelism since 1978; Attend UMCOR Disaster Training Seminars – 1989 - 2005

## CIVIC & COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES:

Past member of Ruritans, Coached Girls Softball Teams(12-16); Assistant Tennis Coach, Jacksonville High School; President and member of Dare County Ministerial Association; Habit For Humanity Committee building a home in Hubert; Currently First Vice President of the Methodist University Board of Directors Alumni Association- Award the Distinguish Alumni Service award in 2009; Swansboro Elementary School Advisory Board; Mission Workteams to Methodist University yearly and to the community I live in.

## WHY YOU BELIEVE YOU SHOULD BE ELECTED:

I believe that I would bring not only my commitment to the ministry of the local church to General Conference but also 30 years of commitment to the rural churches of North Carolina. I bring also a strong sense of the Wesleyan Experience grounded in the Word of God to the United Methodist Church. The mission of the church to make Disciples of Jesus Christ is a top priority for my ministry and should be for people called Methodist.

# LAWRENCE E. JOHNSON

Telephone # 919.484.0558

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Status: Elder in Full Connection

Date of Last Annual Conference Attended: 2010

PERSONAL INFORMATION: Married to the former Dr. Bernice Duffy, Dean of Univ. College NCCU, Durham. Two adult daughters, Fatima (Elem. School Principal), Selena (Pharmaceutical Research Technician)

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND: Wilberforce University, BA, Garrett Evangelical & Christian Theological Seminary, M.Div., & D.Min. respectively.

## CHURCH ACTIVITIES:

- **Local Church** –Served churches in Arkansas, Ohio, Illinois, Indiana and North Carolina—Asbury Temple, (DU), John Wesley (FA), Reconciliation (DU)
- **District** – District Board of Ordained Ministry (DU) and District Council (FA, DU)
- **Conference** – Board of Ordained Ministry; Former Director of Multicultural & Social Ministry (NCC); Strengthening the Black Church for the 21st Century; Member of Conference Staff Relations Committee and Structure Review and Equitable Salaries Committee . Program Chair of the SEJ 2007 & 2010 Diversity Training, Lake Junaluska.
- **General Church** – General Board of Discipleship (Education), National Design Team of Multi cultural Ministries, General Board of Global Ministries. SEJ Networking Group Commission on Religion and Race.

CIVIC & COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES: Chair, WTVD-ABC 11 Eyewitness News Minority Advisory Committee; President of Durham Congregations in Action (57 Inter-Religious Congregations); Chair Durham/Fayetteville Martin Luther King Committees; Chair of Cumberland County Partnership for Children. Taught Disciple Bible Study at Guess Road Correctional Center, Durham

WHY YOU BELIEVE YOU SHOULD BE ELECTED: I believe my various and diverse experience as pastor, semi-nary staff member of two theological schools, founder/director of Brightwood Community Center, (Indianapolis, IN,) and co-founder of Reconciliation Church, an intentionally multicultural congregation, makes for a well-rounded delegate to General Conference.

Our denomination is facing many challenges in terms of re-organization, structure, doctrine, polity, mission and ministry. However, I see these as golden opportunities to shape and direct our church for “making Disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.” As a church that operates locally, we must also think and act globally. A delegate is charged with setting policies, adopting resolutions, revising church law and setting priorities for a new millennium. I believe I have the experience, knowledge and skills to accomplish the task that will enable and empower our church to create a church which will unite and be a church for all God’s children. I offer my services to be a part of the decision- making process for making a great church even greater.

## HERBERT LOWRY, JR.

Telephone # 910.488.2350  
4555 Rosehill Road, Fayetteville, NC 28311  
hlowry@nccumc.org

Status: Elder in Full Connection

Date of Last Annual Conference Attended: June 2010

**PERSONAL INFORMATION:** Married, three children and three grandchildren. I enjoy being outdoors, as well as long periods of quiet time for reading.

**EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND:** Pembroke Senior High School 1979; University of North Carolina - Pembroke 1995, BA Philosophy and Religion; Duke Divinity School 2000, MDiv.; Hood Theological Seminary, 2006 - 2009 working towards DMin.

### CHURCH ACTIVITIES:

**Local church:** I have served as Pastor for over twenty years. I have served in two conferences and five districts. I have served two-point charges, as well as single charges (one of the two-point charges became strong enough to become a full-time charge and the other became a student-pastor charge within five years during my leadership). I have served rural, city and urban churches. Most of my pastoral ministry has been in cross-cultural appointments.

**District:** Vice Chair District Board of Ordained Ministry, Committee on Superintendency, District Table.

**Conference:** Bishops Task Force on Superintendency, Conference Board of Ordained Ministry, Conference Board of Multi-Cultural Ministry, Conference Committee on Finance and Administration.

**CIVIC & COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES:** In each appointment, I have been active within the community in many ways. For example, Concerned Citizens for Better Government, Food Pantries, Relay for Life, Old Fashion Farmers Day, Ministerial Alliances, Community Revivals, Parent Teacher Associations, Chaplain, Volunteer Coach, Volunteer Reader, Habitat for Humanity and Mission Teams.

**WHY YOU BELIEVE YOU SHOULD BE ELECTED:** My love for God and the church, and my desire to see the United Methodist church claim its unique opportunity to lead the world makes me a good candidate for General Conference. Also, I have a deep concern for the need of a new awakening or revival within the "people called Methodists."

**ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:** Unless we find ways to reach a new generation of younger people, our church will continue to lose members and fail in our commission to "make disciples." I have practical experience. I understand many of the barriers that weaken the church. My passion and willingness to serve is evident to those who know me. As a middle-aged Pastor, I continue to be shaped by the generation that preceded me as well as the generation that follows. However, I am not enslaved to traditionalism nor am I in awe of new-age radical movements. Both of which seem to be stuck in extremism. The United Methodist Church has an excellent foundation and a great tradition. Our church is performing many wonderful ministries to enhance the Kingdom of God. Nevertheless, we must find newer and creative ways to present the gospel. Only then will we reverse the present trend.

# STEVE MCELROY

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Status: Elder in Full Connection

Date of Last Conference Attended: 2010

**PERSONAL INFORMATION:** I am married to Lori McElroy. We recently celebrated 28 years of marriage. Lori is a special education "Program Facilitator" in the Chapel Hill School system and is the daughter of the retired Rev. Bob Bundy. We have two boys. Ben will graduate from college in June and is interested in becoming a Psychiatric Nurse Practitioner. Josh, our youngest, is a technician at Performance BMW in Durham.

**EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND:** Jacksonville Senior High School: 1980, Asbury College: Bachelor of Arts in Biblical Studies, Minor in Philosophy - 1984, Asbury Theological Seminary: Masters of Divinity - 1989, National Institute in New Church Development - 1995

## CHURCH ACTIVITIES:

**Local Church:** I grew up at and was an active member at Northwoods UMC, Jacksonville, NC.) Student Pastor, Lawsons Chapel UMC, Lancaster KY, 1986-1987; Student Pastor, Hebron UMC, Crab Orchard, KY, 1987-1989; Associate Pastor, Wesley Memorial UMC, Wilmington, NC, 1989-1992; Pastor, Pilmoor Memorial UMC, Currituck, NC, 1992-1995; Founding Pastor, Pinehurst UMC, Pinehurst, NC, 1995-2003; Senior Pastor, Nashville UMC, Nashville, NC 2003-2006; Senior Pastor, Christ UMC, Chapel Hill, NC 2006 - present. The churches I have served have taken in more than 1,500 members during my time of service.

**District:** Wilmington District - District Youth Coordinator; Elizabeth City District - Disaster Relief Chairperson; Rocky Mount District - Member of the District Board of Ordained Ministry and Evangelism Chair; Burlington District - Board of Ordained Ministry

Conference: Executive Committee of the Board of Ordained Ministry, Chair of Extensions Ministry

**General Church:** National Leadership Incubator

## CIVIC AND COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES:

Methodist Home for Children - Weekend Houseparent;

Women's Shelter of Elizabeth City - Board Member; Nashville Habitat for Humanity - Board Member;

Interfaith Council of Chapel Hill - Board Member

**WHY YOU BELIEVE YOU SHOULD BE ELECTED:** I love The United Methodist Church. The church took me in when I was a teenager living in poverty and sin and (at times) without a place to lay my head, and it showed me the way to salvation. God has worked through our church to save me in most every way. Now, these many years later, I want the church to continue to powerfully shine the light of God's salvation out to the least and the lost in our world. I believe that I have the experience, wisdom, vision, and heart to help our church grow and faithfully evolve as it moves into an ever changing future.

**STATEMENT OF PHILOSOPHY AND/OR BELIEFS:** I am strongly Wesleyan in my beliefs and am constantly trying to learn more about our awesome God. I have a heart for people and a deep desire to help others feel the warm embrace of the God who seeks to love and transform them.

## **TAYLOR W. MILLS**

Telephone # 919.683.1386

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Status: Elder in Full Connection

Date of Last Annual Conference Attended: June 10-12, 2010

### **PERSONAL INFORMATION:**

Married father of two. Life-long United Methodist raised at Raleigh: Edenton St. UMC.

### **EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND:**

B.S. in Applied Communications, Appalachian State University '98; M.Div., Duke Divinity School '01

### **CHURCH ACTIVITIES:**

- Local Church – Youth Minister, Hayes Barton UMC '98-'01; Pastor of First UMC, Williamston '01-'06; Pastor of Avent Ferry UMC '06-'10; Pastor of Trinity UMC, Durham '10-present
- District – Director of Youth Ministries, Greenville District; Co-webmaster, Durham District
- Conference – Communications Circle, member '04-'08; Communication Committee, chairperson 08-present; Stewardship Leadership Team, member '08-present; Conference Connectional Table (CCT), member '08-present; CCT Leadership Incubator '09-'10; Faith and Tech Blog, General Editor, '10-present
- General Church – GBCS Young Clergy Leadership Forum/Ecumenical Advocacy Days, '07; SEJ Quadrennial Training, '09; United Methodist Association of Communicators annual meeting, '08

### **CIVIC & COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES:**

Columnist, The Enterprise newspaper, '01-'05; Martin General Hospital, Volunteer Chaplain and Chaplain Program Coordinator '02-'06; Martin County Ministerial Association, Vice-President '02, President '03-'06; Pamlico Emmaus/Chrysalis Community, Assistant Spiritual Director '07, '09; AventWest Community Development Corporation, board member '01-'06; Raleigh Wesley Foundation, board member '08-'10

### **WHY YOU BELIEVE YOU SHOULD BE ELECTED:**

I feel called to offer to serve God through the larger United Methodist connection. My ministry in settings like the local church, Conference communications, campus ministry, youth, camping (non-denominational Christian camp), and hospital chaplaincy have given me a broad base of experiences from which to serve. I would consider it a great honor and responsibility to help represent our Conference if I were asked to serve.

### **STATEMENT OF PHILOSOPHY AND/OR BELIEFS:**

I believe in the historic confessions of our faith and in the centrality of Holy Scripture to the life and practice of a Christian. The tradition handed down to us through the Methodist movement and by our experiences of the Holy Spirit, rightly inform us as we apply these Scriptures to our daily lives. I believe the best days of The United Methodist Church are ahead of us if we will seek to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. This disciple-making will happen, primarily, through the local church. Therefore, our denomination's conferences, agencies, and other bodies should seek, first-and-foremost, to equip the local church for disciple-making ministry. With God's grace, then, our healthy congregations can do so much together for the transformation of the world.



# MARSHALL R. OLD

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Address: 704 Mill Point Way, Elon, NC 27244

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Status: Elder in Full Connection

Date of Last Annual Conference Attended: June 2010

**PERSONAL INFORMATION:** Currently I am in my fourth year of service as Lead Pastor of Front Street United Methodist, Burlington. I am married to Carol and we have two adult sons, Donny and Eric. I have been a member of the North Carolina Annual Conference since 1973.

## EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND:

B.A. in English literature, North Carolina Wesleyan College, Rocky Mount, NC (1972)

M. Div., Duke University Divinity School, Durham, NC (1975)

## CHURCH ACTIVITIES:

- **Local Church** – I have served 7 appointments since 1975: [NB] Jacksonville: Trinity UMC (associate); [DU] Oak Grove; [SA] Carthage; [BU] First UMC, Graham; [RA] Asbury UMC, Raleigh; [GR] District Superintendent, Greenville; [BU] Front Street UMC, Burlington. In each place I have been pastor, preacher, teacher, administrator, and worship leader.
- **District** – Member, Burlington District Board of Ordained Ministry (2007 – current); Candidacy Mentor (1997 – current)
- **Conference** – Delegate to Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference (2004); Member, Council on Finance and Administration (2004-2007); Trustee, United Methodist Retirement Homes (2002-2007); Member, NC Annual Conference Board of Ordained Ministry (2008 – current); Member, NC Annual Conference Board of Ordained Ministry Executive Committee (2008 – current); Chair, Conference Relations Committee (2008 – present); District Superintendent, Greenville District (2002-2007)

**CIVIC & COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES:** Participant in local hunger relief ministry (Loaves and Fishes) and ministry to the homeless (Allied Churches of Alamance County).

**WHY YOU BELIEVE YOU SHOULD BE ELECTED:** General Conference casts the vision that allows United Methodists, under the leadership of the Holy Spirit, to transform this world into a likeness of the Kingdom of God that is fully aligned with the teachings of Jesus. A Call to Action and The Ministry Study will require careful study and earnest dialogue as we discern how our church adapts to current realities, plans for a healthy future, and determines how we send forth clergy to partner with laity in Kingdom building. In similar fashion, Jurisdictional Conference allows us to prayerfully select leadership. It would be a privilege to serve as a member of our delegation. My experience in a wide variety of local church settings along with ministry in district and conference arenas enables me to offer wisdom and guidance nurtured by prayer.

# MILFORD OXENDINE, JR.

Telephone 910.516.2092: Cell 910.461.7811

Address:300 E 3rd Avenue, Chadbourn, N.C.28431

Email:miloxendine@nccumc.org

Status: Elder in Full Connection

Date of Last Annual Conference Attended: June, 2010

## PERSONAL INFORMATION:

37 years in the N.C. Annual Conference; married – 38 years to Jeannie; four children – Shane- works for United Methodist Foundation; Scarlett – nurse with Robeson County Health Dept.; Aaron – a financial consultant; and Chris Director of Veteran’s Affairs in Robeson County. Six grandchildren.

## EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND:

UNCP (formally know as Pembroke State College) – 1969 – B.S. in Math (Honor Student); Duke Divinity School – M Div – 1978; Chaplain’s Advance School – 1991-1992 (Honor Student); Hood Theological Seminary – D Min – 2007 (Class President).

## CHURCH ACTIVITIES:

- **Local Church**  
Serving in a two-point charge: Chadbourn/Evergreen – Wilmington District  
Preach, teach, and provide training for leadership development
- **District**  
Serve on District Superintendent Committee – Wilmington District – 2011  
Served on District Superintendent Committee – Rockingham District
- **Conference**  
Board of Pensions – 1976-1980; Committee on Multi-culture: 2002, 2003, 2006; Committee on Native American Ministries (Chair): 1996-2004; Board of Ordained Ministries: 1994-2003
- **General Church**  
Higher Education & Ministries – 1976-1980; Division of Chaplains – 1976-1980

CIVIC & COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES: Organized the local Day of Prayer for Chadbourn; I routinely give devotion at Chadbourn Senior Citizens; Helping with the “Good News Club” at Evergreen Elementary School; Active in the local group called “Elderberries.”

WHY YOU BELIEVE YOU SHOULD BE ELECTED: As the first Lumbee Indian to graduate from Duke Divinity School and as the first American Indian to serve as an Air Force Chaplain Candidate and Navy Chaplain, I feel there needs to be a voice for my people for the United Methodist Church at General Conference. Without any voice speaking for my people, we will be left out of the decision making process which applies to all. I feel I have the ability to be open and to have dialogue with others. The American Indian needs representation from our Conference.

STATEMENT OF PHILOSOPHY AND BELIEFS: I believe in the Apostolic Creed. I am conservative and evangelical when it comes to Christian ethics. I believe the Bible is the true Word of God. Prayer and daily devotion helps build my spiritual life. Also, I believe in the “holistic” gospel. My faith is placed and grounded in Jesus Christ. He is my Lord and Savior.

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS: Theological stance – Wesleyan Evangelical; Reserves: Air Force Chaplain Candidate – 1976-1980 – (Honorary Discharge); Navy Chaplain – 1980-1993 (Active Duty – Honorary Discharge); Navy Chaplain Reserve – 1993-2002 – Retired as Commander; Wrote the American Indian Report on the Ethnic Minority Local Church for 1976 General Conference; Wrote the first By-laws for SEJNAM; Book – A Cross-Culture Study of Cordova United Methodist Church Applying the Wesley Quadrilateral to Two Different Cultures: Currently writing The Lumbee Methodists: Part II; Sermons Published: One Nation Under God, A Rebirth of a Nation – 1976; National Council of Churches (two sermons published); U.S. Senate Prayer – 1997 - Represented Navy Chief of Chaplains at the NATO exercise in Sweden – 1992; Two Navy Commendation Medals. Sermons published in Abingdon Ministers Annual (1991-1995).

# TIM REAVES

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Email: treaves@nccumc.org

Status: Elder in Full Connection

Date of Last Annual Conference Attended: June 2010

**PERSONAL INFORMATION:** I have pastored the three churches of the Bladen Charge for the last 13 and ½ years. In that time they have grown in combined average worship attendance from 80 per Sunday to over 275 per Sunday. I am married to Tina and have two daughters, Alena and Trinity. I was the recipient of the 2003 Denman Evangelism Award and I see Evangelism as a major part of my ministry.

**EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND:** I received a BS in Business Management from UNC Wilmington. I received my Masters in Divinity Degree at The Divinity School at Duke University and my Doctor of Ministry Degree from Hood Theological Seminary.

## CHURCH ACTIVITIES:

- **Local Church** – Pastor at the same charge for a little over 13 years. The charge has grown from Student Appointment to a Full Time Appointment with a part-time associate pastor and part-time secretary in addition to the lead pastor. Combined worship attendance has increased from 80 to over 275 during this time. On this charge during my tenure, three fellowship halls have been built, two Sunday School additions, one Sanctuary has been remodeled and one new Sanctuary has been built to double the seating capacity at that local church. New missions have been put in place and our associate pastor position is currently a cross-racial appointment.
- **District** – Evangelism Resource person for about 8 years. -One of the organizers of Wilmington District Camp Meeting to promote renewal. -Currently serving on District Team on Ministry and on the District Committee on Ordained Ministry. -Assisted in Charge Conferences for the DS.
- **Conference** – Served 6 years on the Conference Commission on Evangelism. Served 2 years as its chair. Currently on the Conference Connectional Table and Spiritual Formation Team. Served as Dean the Conference Academy on Christian Witness for at least three years. I have conducted District evangelism and worship workshops as well as teaching at local pastor's school. Preached at Youth ACS and at District youth events. -Designed and hosted Fan the Flame, a small membership church renewal event which has been held for five years. Preach about 12 revivals a year.
- **General Church** – Elected and served as Jurisdictional Conference Delegate in 2008. Led a Jurisdictional Small Church Leadership Retreat hosted by the Arkansas Conference.

**CIVIC & COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES:** Served on Fire Dept. and currently serve on local Rescue Squad. Active in community events and assist in coaching a Tee Ball team. Served as a counselor at the local school during times of crisis. Served 2 years as Bladen County Rescue Association President.

**WHY YOU BELIEVE YOU SHOULD BE ELECTED:** I believe that God is not done with the United Methodist Church and still seeks to use it for God's glory to make disciples for Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. I believe there must be a renewed emphasis on evangelism and mission. I feel that my passion for Jesus Christ and revival in the church, along with my training and practice of Evangelism, will contribute greatly to making the decisions that are right for the future of the people called Methodist.

**ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:** I pray that we will send the right people to General Conference who will truly represent our Annual Conference as we seek to do God's will.

# TIMOTHY JOHN RUSSELL

Telephone # 919.779.6115

Address: P.O. Box 1970, Garner, NC 27520

Email: trussell@nccumc.org

Status: Elder in Full Connection

Date of Last Annual Conference Attended: 2010

## PERSONAL INFORMATION:

Married to Pam since 1985. We have two children: Molly, a senior at UNC-Asheville, and John, a sophomore at Appalachian State.

## EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND:

B.S.S.W from Florida State University, M.Div. from Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary

## CHURCH ACTIVITIES:

- **Local Church** – We have a wide variety of experiences in local church settings. We began our ministry in the UMC with a field education experience at Wilson Temple in Raleigh, a predominately African-American congregation. We have also served a rural two-point charge, a “First” church in a small town, as an associate at a large membership church and as the senior pastor appointed to a medium church that grew into one of our largest churches.
- **District** – I have served on the Church Location and Building Committee, the Committee on Superintendency, the Committee on Nominations, Trustees and I have chaired the District Committee on Ordained Ministry. In addition, I served as a candidacy mentor for many years.
- **Conference** – I have served as the secretary to the Board of Ordained Ministry as well as chaired the subcommittee on Residency in Ordained Ministry. In my current role as Director of Ministerial Relations and assistant to the bishop, I serve on many committees and boards for the annual conference. I now resource the Board of Ordained Ministry and work closely with them and the candidates they serve.
- **General Church** – In 2002 my family and I participated in a pulpit exchange through the World Methodist Council in Great Ayton, England. In 2006 I served as a delegate to the World Methodist Conference in Seoul. In my current appointment I am very active in the Staff Network for Boards of Ordained Ministry on the general church and jurisdictional level.

**CIVIC & COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES:** I have served as the President of a local Civitans Club and Lions Club, although I am currently not active in either one. I have served on the PTA, as a mentor, tutor and judge for senior projects in local schools. In the last few years, I have been very involved in the tennis communities in Wilmington and Clayton.

**WHY YOU BELIEVE YOU SHOULD BE ELECTED:** I have a broad range of experience in local churches in our annual conference. I believe that experience would help me represent our conference well. In my current appointment I have been involved at the conference, jurisdictional and general church levels in many issues that will come before the 2012 General Conference. I also think the fact that I have never served as a delegate to a General or Jurisdictional Conference will allow me to see things with new eyes. All of these experiences have given me greater insight into the issues our denomination is facing.

**STATEMENT OF PHILOSOPHY AND/OR BELIEFS:** I believe the Gospel of Jesus Christ has the power to transform our lives and make us into new people. I have seen it happen in my own life and have watched it happen in the lives of others for many years. It has been my honor and privilege to share that Gospel for over 25 years in a variety of settings – urban missions, an African American church, rural churches, a small town church, large membership churches and on the cabinet.

## **DENNIS R. SHEPPARD**

Telephone # 910.425.5019

Address: 4927 Legion Road, Hope Mills, NC 28348

Email: drs54@nccumc.org

Status: Elder in Full Connection

Date of Last Annual Conference Attended: 2010

PERSONAL INFORMATION: Married to Barbara Ayers for 33 years. 2 Children, Larry and Melissa.

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND: Methodist University – B.A.

Duke Divinity School – M.Div

Drew University – D.Min.

### CHURCH ACTIVITIES:

- Local Church – Pastor at Hope Mills UMC since 2000
- District – Currently Chair of the District Committee on Ordained Ministry
- Conference – Served on Commission on Education, Disaster Response Committee, Insurance Committee, and Board of Ordained Ministry. Taught Preaching in the License to Preach School

### CIVIC & COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES:

Past Member of Ruritan, Started two Volunteer Chaplaincy Programs, Served on the Board of Directors of the Warren County Helping Ministry, Sampson Crisis Center, and Currently serve on the Board of Directors of the ALMS House in Hope Mills. I am the Chaplain for the SouthView High School Varsity Football Team and the Hope Mills Police Dept.

### WHY YOU BELIEVE YOU SHOULD BE ELECTED:

I believe that I would bring experience, wisdom, and love for God and the United Methodist Church to the delegation. I believe we should have a strong delegation whose first priority should be to the mission of the Church and not personal agendas.

### ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:

I would love to have the opportunity to serve.

# ALBERT SHULER

Telephone # 919.280.7412

Address: 100 S. Judd Parkway SE, Fuquay-Varina, NC 27526

Email: ashuler@nccumc.org

Status: Elder in Full Connection – 1979; Deacon - 1977

Date of Last Annual Conference Attended: 2009

## PERSONAL INFORMATION:

Wife, Jimmie Shuler, M.D.

Daughter, Melissa Shuler

## EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND:

Duke Divinity School, Durham, NC, M. Div., December 1977

Interdenominational Theological Center, Atlanta, GA, 1974-75

Claflin University, Orangeburg, SC, BA, May 1974

St. John High School, Cameron, SC, Diploma, May 1970

## CHURCH ACTIVITIES:

### Local Church and District

- 2010-2011 – Senior Pastor, Fuquay Varina United Methodist Church, Raleigh District
- 2009-2010 – Senior Pastor, Camp Ground Church, Fayetteville
- 2006-2009 – Senior Pastor, Jarvis Memorial Church, Greenville District
- 2002-2006 - District Superintendent, Elizabeth City District
- 1998-2002 - Senior Pastor, Orange Church, Burlington District
- 1990-1998 - District Superintendent, Durham District
- 1988-1990 - Associate Director, Conference Council on Ministries, Raleigh
- 1980-1988 - John Wesley Church, Fayetteville District
- 1977-1980 - Granville-Vance Charge, Durham District
- January-June 1977 - St. John-Smith Chapel Charge, Wilmington District

### Conference

- Design Team for new United Methodist Conference Building, 2008-present
- Council on Finance and Administration, 2006-present
- Strengthening the Black Church, Chairperson
- Conference Personnel Committee
- Restructuring Committee, Connectional Table
- Board of Ordained Ministry, 1998-2002

### General Church

- General Board of Global Ministries (1992-2000)
- General Board of Discipleship (2000-2008)

## CIVIC & COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES:

- Highland Country Club Morning Rotary, July 2009-present
- Co-Chair, Homelessness Committee to End Chronic Homelessness, Greenville and Pitt County, 2007-2009
- Chamber of Commerce, Pitt County, 2006-2009
- Pitt County Boys and Girls Club Board of Directors, 2006-2009

## WHY YOU BELIEVE YOU SHOULD BE ELECTED:

I know there will be many items before the 2012 General Conference of the UMC, and I would welcome the opportunity to help guide our General Church as she seeks to address the pressing concerns of the next quadrennial.

## STATEMENT OF PHILOSOPHY AND/OR BELIEFS:

We are in an extremely critical time within The United Methodist Church in the United States, a time when we must do all that is possible to work on behalf of a doctrinally sound, morally faithful, global and inclusive church. I have a firm commitment to our Wesleyan heritage that affirms the church's traditional historical doctrine, witnesses to the personal faith in and love of Jesus Christ, and seeks to embody this faith through acts of compassion, justice, worship, and witness in a world that is hurting and broken.

# ANNE WALKER SIMS

Telephone # 252.728.4279

Address: 417 Ann Street, Beaufort, NC 28516

Email: [asims@nccumc.org](mailto:asims@nccumc.org)

Status: Elder in Full Connection

Date of Last Annual Conference Attended: June 2010

**PERSONAL INFORMATION:** Married to Rev. Ben Sims Dec. 29, 1999. Interested in the power of narrative--the stories we tell, intentionally and unintentionally--to shape our relationships with God and with other people.

**EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND:** William and Mary, 1994: BS in Environmental Science & Spanish; Duke Divinity School M.Div., 2001; Drew Theological School D. Min. in 21st Century Leadership, 2010.

## CHURCH ACTIVITIES:

- **Local Church** – Currently in my 5th year at Ann Street UMC as associate pastor; this is my 4th appointment and I have more than 12 years pastoral experience, mostly as the only pastor, including 2 years as a student local pastor.
- **District** – In my 4th year as Chair of the New Bern District Ministry Team. The DMT resources churches in the district for ministry and works to produce the district Lay Rally, Lay Leadership Training, continuing education events for clergy, district children and youth programming, etc. From 2004-2006, I served on the Goldsboro District Connectional Table as Continuing Education rep. and served on the Hispanic Ministry and Worship committees.
- **Conference** – Currently serving as a member of the conference Communications Team.
- **General Church** – All of the above are ultimately in the service of the General Church and the Kingdom of God, but I have not held a specific role related to the General Church.

**CIVIC & COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES:** A founding member of the Loaves and Fishes of Beaufort ecumenical community ministry, in which local churches combine to provide food and financial assistance, as well as programs like the Men's Blast and Celebrate Recovery. In a previous appointment, I served as an executive board member for Kinston Inter-Church Outreach, and am an active supporter of community and school theater and sports.

**WHY YOU BELIEVE YOU SHOULD BE ELECTED:** I am a theologically reflective, deeply committed Christian and pastor who is passionate about helping make disciples for the transformation of the world by helping people develop their relationships individually and corporately with Christ and the church. I believe that our Wesleyan theological heritage uniquely qualifies United Methodism to thrive in post-modern culture, if we can recover our commitment to holy conversation and center our faith, worship, and leadership practices on what is most crucial: to point people toward Christ and help them move closer in community. I have studied the Call to Action and Ministry Study Commission documents and recommendations, and look eagerly toward the opportunity to help shape how the UMC shares its story with Christ's story so that we can continue to guide people to Christ.

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:** I am currently considered by the annual conference as a young pastor (under 40). I have a great deal invested in the future of the UMC, which has a decreasing number of young pastors. I want to be a voice for all United Methodists, but I feel I can speak well for the concerns of clergy-women and younger pastors. As the spouse of a person with mild cerebral palsy, I also have a heart for disability concerns.

## **H. GRAY SOUTHERN**

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522 S. Duke Street, Durham, NC 27701  
Email: [grays@nccumc.org](mailto:grays@nccumc.org)

Status: Elder in Full Connection

Date of Last Annual Conference Attended: 2010

### **PERSONAL INFORMATION:**

Grew up in Smithfield, NC, as a member of Centenary UMC. Married to Susan Lewis Southern. Two children: Kirk (medical student at Georgetown) and Mary-Gray (high school senior)

### **EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND:**

Smithfield-Selma Sr. High School, BA from UNC-Chapel Hill in Psychology and Religion; M.Div. from Yale University Divinity School; D.Min. from Columbia Theological Seminary

### **CHURCH ACTIVITIES:**

- Local Church – Active as a lay person while a child, youth, and young adult. I have served St. Paul (Goldsboro) as Associate Pastor; and Oriental (New Bern); West Nash (Rocky Mt.); Trinity (Durham); St. James (Greenville) as Pastor.
- District – I have served in various districts as Youth Coordinator; Camping Coordinator; Young Adult Coordinator; dCOM member and chair; RIOM leader; refugee resettlement coordinator; worship coordinator; spiritual life retreat leader; evangelism chair; district Trustees; Church Building and Location Committee. I currently serve as DS in The Durham District.
- Conference – I have served on the CCYM, Camping and Retreat Ministries Board, Insurance Committee; Board of Pensions; Joint Committee on Incapacity; youth mission team leader; member of the former COM; Hispanic Ministries Committee; Disciple Bible Outreach Ministries Board; Justice for our Neighbors Committee; Board of Institutions member
- General Church – Member of the 2008 General and Jurisdictional Conference Delegation; Member of The General Board of Pension and Health Benefits

### **CIVIC & COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES:**

I have been a member of a Social Services Board and its apolitical Chair; I have served on three Citizens' Advisory Committees for three counties; helped organize two ecumenical assistance ministries; served on a hospice board and been a volunteer hospice and hospital chaplain; I have been a member of three civic clubs in various communities where I have served.

### **WHY YOU BELIEVE YOU SHOULD BE ELECTED:**

I see the 2012 General and Jurisdictional Conferences as watersheds for our denomination and want to help shape the stronger future that I believe God wants us to claim. Formed by the local church, I understand that through our local churches and our connection we are in ministry to the world.

### **STATEMENT OF PHILOSOPHY AND/OR BELIEFS:**

As a Wesleyan Christian I am rooted in Scripture, saved and shaped by grace. I am centered in Christ and believe that The United Methodist Church, with its traditional doctrines and statements is in a position to move forward in growth and spirit.



# PAUL T. STALLSWORTH

111 Hodges Street, Morehead City, NC 28557

Telephone # 252.726.2175

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Status: Elder in Full Connection

Date of Last Annual Conference Attended: 2010

**PERSONAL INFORMATION:** Baptized into Christ and His Church at First Methodist Church of Garden City, KS; also confirmed at First Church; married Marsha Lynn Lemke in 1971; blessed with four children: Ryan (married to Brandie, blessed with Jonas), Paige (crossed the Jordan in 2004), Matthew, and Peter; taught middle-school math in the Wichita (KS) Public Schools in 1972-3 and 1976-7; served with Rev. Richard John Neuhaus at The Center on Religion and Society (NY, NY), and The Institute on Religion and Public Life (NY, NY), appointments beyond the local church.

**EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND:** Graduated from Garden City (KS) High School in 1968, from Kansas State University (B.S. in Mathematics) in 1972, and from Duke Divinity School in 1976; studied at Princeton Theological Seminary (summer session of 1979); completed an additional year of graduate study at the Terry Sanford Institute of Public Policy at Duke University (1979-80); and interned with Dr. Michael Novak at the American Enterprise Institute in Washington, DC.

## CHURCH ACTIVITIES:

- Local Church – Appointed associate pastor of First United Methodist Church/Elizabeth City, and pastor of Cumberland United Methodist Church, Creswell United Methodist Charge, Rose Hill United Methodist Church, Broad Creek United Methodist Church, and St. Peter's United Methodist Church (current appointment).
- District – New Bern District Ministry Team, Continuing Education (various districts), Committee on Ordained Ministry (various districts), and Covenant Group (convener for years).
- Conference – The Unity Dialogue (on the Church and homosexuality, co-chair), Christian Unity Committee/North Carolina Council of Churches (current), NCCC House of Delegates, Board of Ordained Ministry, Christian Unity Committee, Church and Society Committee, Connectional Table, Episcopal Circle, and the "Generous Orthodoxy" column (NC Christian Advocate).
- General Church – Taskforce of United Methodists on Abortion and Sexuality/Lifewatch (president), Reform and Renewal Coalition (member), National Pro-Life Religious Council (member), Lifewatch (quarterly newsletter on the Church and abortion, [www.lifewatch.org](http://www.lifewatch.org), editor), edited: *Thinking Theologically about Abortion* (Bristol, 2000), *The Right Choice: Pro-Life Sermons* (Abingdon, 1997), *The Church and Abortion: In Search of New Ground for Response* (Abingdon, 1993), and (with Richard John Neuhaus) *The Encounter Series/Eerdmans* (sixteen books derived from conferences on religion and public life: from *Augustine Today* to *Biblical Interpretation in Crisis to Virtue: Public and Private*); and authored many editorials, essays, and book reviews for various periodicals.

**CIVIC & COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES:** Carteret County Ministerial Association (CCMA, president), Strategic Plan Committee for the Carteret County Schools (member), helped the CCMA propose The Manhattan Declaration to the larger community, assisted in composing "Pro Ecclesia: An Ecumenical Confession," organized a public forum on healthcare legislation and a film presentation on Dietrich Bonhoeffer, Hospital Ethics Committee (member), Coastal Pregnancy Care Center (board member), Broad Street Clinic, and rec-league basketball coach (17 years).

**WHY YOU BELIEVE YOU SHOULD BE ELECTED:** Ask my mom. On second thought, don't.

**ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:** While the Enlightenment continues its full-court press in American society and beyond, empowering each person to be a reigning sovereign self, The United Methodist Church is called by God to be the Church -- offering Jesus Christ, proposing God's Word, observing the Sacraments, loving the least, and showing unity, holiness, catholicity, and apostolicity to a fragmenting, frantic world -- that is, standing against the world, for the world.

# JONATHAN ERIC STROTHER (JON)

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Email: jstrother@nccumc.org

Status: Elder in Full Connection

Date of Last Annual Conference Attended: June 2010

## PERSONAL INFORMATION:

I was born Oct. 16, 1957 in Sanford, N.C. to Clyde and Iris Strother, and have two older siblings. My home church is Trinity UMC in Sanford, N.C., a "Ten Dollar Club" church which was born out Bishop Garber's vision. establishing new congregations across eastern North Carolina. In the summers of 1979 and 1980 I participated in a ministry known as The Circus Tent on the North Carolina Outer Banks, where I met my spouse. I have been married to Diana (Gray) Strother of Powells Point, N.C. for 30 years, and we have been blessed with three bright and beautiful daughters; two who are now college graduates, and a rising junior in high school. I enjoy travel, music in almost every expression, storytelling, poetry, networking, and serving others.

## EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND:

Graduate of Sanford Central High School in 1975. Graduate of Methodist University in 1980 with a BA in Religion and Philosophy. Graduate of Duke University Divinity School in 1986 with a Masters of Divinity.

## CHURCH ACTIVITIES:

- Local Church – I have been privileged to serve six (6) local churches in our annual conference: Macon Charge 1982-1986, Hayes Barton (associate) 1986-1988, Rose Hill 1989-1993, Hertford 1994-1999, Windborne (founding pastor) 1999-2006, Benson Memorial –(sr pastor) 2006 – 2009, Raleigh District (superintendent) 2009 - present
- District – Raleigh District Council on Ministries (vice-chair), Elizabeth City District Committee on Ministry, Raleigh District Committee on Ministry, Race of Grace Visioning Team
- Conference – Conference Board of Ordained Ministry (have served on Executive Committee, also as BOM Secretary, RIM Chair, on the Transfer Committee, and Chair of former Proclamation Committee). I have also served on The Conference Board of Worship,

## CIVIC & COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES:

I have served as a volunteer fireman, and have been engaged in ministry at The North Carolina Correctional Center For Women. I currently serve regularly at the Federal Correction Institution in Butner, N.C. sharing through music and preaching The last three summers I have served on work teams at The Hinton Rural Life Center in Hayesville, N.C. Last November I was privileged to represent our conference, on a work team with Bishop Gwinn and other cabinet colleagues in Michaud, Haiti at The Ryan Epps Home For Children. I currently serve on The Board of Trustees for Louisburg College, and have specific responsibilities with The Learning Enterprises Committee.

**WHY YOU BELIEVE YOU SHOULD BE ELECTED:** As a life-long United Methodist, I have been nurtured and spiritually formed in the womb of the Wesleyan family. In twenty-nine years of pastoral ministry I have served a rural three-point charge, a large metropolitan congregation, a small town church and a county seat congregation. I have partnered with others in planting a congregation which took shape in the living room of our home. I have served as senior pastor of a vibrant urban church, and now I serve in the ministry of superintendency. I have traveled to other countries and experienced the grace present in the world-wide Body of Christ. Each of these opportunities has shaped and strengthened me, while posing me with challenges of leadership which were/are beyond my own abilities. In each setting I have experienced a grace sufficient to meet the challenges and more. I believe that disciples are not born, but made. Discipleship is a process, not merely a program. It is a life-long journey. If honored to serve I will bring to the task a grateful heart and a passion to see our Church live into God's preferred future. As a branch of the Christian family our DNA is that of a movement more than an institution. Movements join God, where God is, to embrace the hurts and hopes of those for whom Christ was born, died, and lives.

## JIMMIE R. TATUM

Telephone # 910-897-8894

Address: 610 Denim Drive, Erwin, NC 28339

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Status: Elder in Full Connection

Date of Last Annual Conference Attended: June of 2010

**PERSONAL INFORMATION:** Married 42 years to wife Martha, Two daughters and two grandchildren. Prior to entering the ministry worked in Auto Parts and also employed by E.I. DuPont and Company, Wilmington Plant. 60 years old with experience working with teams and committees. Also writing and implementing safety and work guidelines.

**EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND:** Graduated Elizabethtown High School 1969, transferred to UNC Wilmington from Southeastern Community College (studied business including business law) in 1976 and Graduated UNCW with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in philosophy and religion December of 1979. Electives were in psychology and education. Entered Duke University 1980 and graduated in 1984.

During the time at UNCW I was appointed by a professor to teach a philosophy course ( a course in which I was a student at the time) when he was on medical leave. I was appointed by another professor to teach a year at Hoggard High School in Wilmington an introductory course in Philosophy and Religion.

### CHURCH ACTIVITIES:

- **Local Church** – I have served small and large rural congregations and have served midsized town congregations. At the present time I am also serving as consultant for local congregations desiring to know the polity and Discipline of the United Methodist Church. Committee. I also have supervised six Duke Field Ed Students and one Campbell University Field Ed Student..
- **District** – I have served as District Education Chair, District Stewardship Chair, and as chair of Rockingham Outreach and Rebuilding (ROAR) Committee. Have served on several committees of superintendency. I have also served as chair of district disaster preparedness committee. Served as Chair of Wilmington Area Rebuilding Ministries (WARM)
- **Conference** – Served on the Conference Disaster Preparedness Committee. Have served as Chair of Entertainment Committee for Annual Conference. Served as Head Usher for the first Annual Conference in Greenville, NC at the convention center.
- **General Church** – have not had an opportunity to serve

**CIVIC & COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES:** I have served as chair of Robeson County Mental Health Committee, chair of Roberson County Church and Community Center. Worked with the Gideons in many communities. Served as chair and on committees for several communities activities.

**WHY YOU BELIEVE YOU SHOULD BE ELECTED:** It is my belief that the General Conference has endangered the polity of The United Methodist Church for the entire church. The General Conference, along with bishops and cabinets, has moved our system from its original polity to a congregational polity. This will be further eroded by a push to do away with guaranteed appointments for elders. My intent will be to uphold our traditional polity and to support guaranteed appointments. I also believe that The Discipline is contradictory in some places and I will push to make The Discipline free of contradictory language.

## **LINDA L. TAYLOR**

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EMAIL: LTAYLOR@NCCUMC.ORG

Status: Elder in Full Connection

Date of Last Annual Conference Attended: June, 2010

### PERSONAL INFORMATION:

Unmarried with 2 adult sons, served United Methodist Church 27 years, enjoy reading, writing, acting, clowning.

### EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND:

BS in Elementary Education – California University of PA.; Master of Divinity – Duke Divinity School

### CHURCH ACTIVITIES:

- Local Church – Lead Pastor for Oleander United Methodist Church – 13 years
- District – Chairperson for Committee on the Superintendency, Board of Church Location & Building, District Ministry Table, District Coordinator for Hispanic/Latino Ministry
- Conference – Episcopal Committee, Conference Trustees, Task Force to Study Role of District Superintendency
- General Church – Currently serve on no committees for General Church

### CIVIC & COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES:

Program Director for “Connecting Hearts Through the Arts” – ESL Program, Program Director for “El Pu-nete, work with Coastal AIDS Resource Effort

### WHY YOU BELIEVE YOU SHOULD BE ELECTED:

Serving in leadership in local, district, conference positions has prepared me to work with those who may not see things the way I do. I have the ability to create an environment for conversation and action.

### ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:

I believe the United Methodist Church can be a strong presence in the world as we continue to face the many pressing issues that lie before us. The Church can and must regain the voice that causes those in the world to stop and listen. We need to claim and celebrate the diversity within our local churches and all the wonderful gifts that can be given. I believe that through the power of the Holy Spirit we can live a life of faith and obedience.

# HOPE VICKERS

Telephone # 919.489.6557  
3002 Hope Valley Rd, Durham, NC 27707  
Email: hvickers@nccumc.org

Status: Elder in Full Connection

Date of Last Annual Conference Attended: 2010

PERSONAL INFORMATION: Married, three grown children

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND:

BA Religion, Methodist College '91, MDiv Duke University '94, Ordained Deacon in 1995 and Elder in 1997

CHURCH ACTIVITIES:

- **Local Church – Appointments**

2009- Present, Epworth UMC, Durham; 2007-2009 Whiteville UMC, Whiteville;  
2004–2007 West Nash UMC, Wilson; 1997-2007 Cumberland UMC, Fayetteville  
1995-1997 Sharon UMC, Poplar Branch; Internship- 1993-1995 St Andrews UMC Raleigh, NC  
Staff- 1988-1992 Director of Children's Ministries Haymount UMC, Fayetteville NC

- **District**

Durham District- 2009-Present- Committee on Church Location & Building  
Wilmington District UMC 2007-2009 - District Trustees, District Com. on Ordained Ministry  
Rocky Mount District UMC 2004-2007 -District Com. on Ordained Ministry, District Table  
2006/07 Leadership Training Committee, UMW Spiritual Day Apart Speaker 2005  
Fayetteville District UMC 1997-2004 District Council on Ministry -Chairperson 2000-2003,  
Work Area: Children's Ministry, Committee on Superintendency, Jan. Workshop Leader for  
Organization of Local Church, District Com. on Ordination, UMW Speaker in 1999, 2003

- **Conference – Present:** Chairperson for Conference Committee on Disability Concerns, Missions Team, Served Episcopacy Committee, Member of ZOE Ministries, RIOM Mentor

- **General Church-** 1997-2004 Clergy Friends of Methodist College (President 2000-2004);  
2002-2008 Methodist College Board of Trustees; Member of Strategic/Long Range Planning Committee, Meth. Univ.: Served on Academic Affairs & Community Relations Committees

CIVIC & COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES:

Local ecumenical efforts, Chamber of Commerce Clergy Initiatives, Cumberland Co. Foster Parents support ministries, Prevention of Child Abuse efforts.

WHY YOU BELIEVE YOU SHOULD BE ELECTED:

I bring some years of local church pastoral experience, district, conference and community experience and fresh eyes to the General Conference process. I am willing to put in the time and effort to effectively participate in the decision making process, representing our NC Conference to the best of my abilities.

## D. BEN WILLIAMS

Telephone # 919.787.0544

Address: 4801 Six Forks Rd. Raleigh, NC 27609

Email: ben@nccumc.org

Status: Elder in Full Connection

Date of Last Annual Conference Attended: June 2010

### PERSONAL INFORMATION:

Raised in the faith: First UMC, Wilson, N.C. and Camp Don Lee

Family: Married to Anna Walston Williams; Children: Stuart, Maggie (both offer great preaching material)

### EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND:

B.S. in Business from Wake Forest University, 1999; M.Div. from Duke Divinity School, 2002

### CHURCH ACTIVITIES:

- **Local Church:**  
Evergreen UMC, Arapahoe UMC, and Alliance UMC – Field Education Placements  
Millbrook UMC – Associate Pastor of Contemporary Worship and Witness (2002-2005)  
St. Mark's UMC – Co-Pastor (2005-2008), Lead Pastor (2008-present)
- **District:**  
District Board of Ordained Ministry (2005-present)
- **Conference:**  
Young Clergy Focus Group – Member of Leadership Team (2009 to present)  
North Carolina United Methodist Camp and Retreat Ministries – Board Member (2005 to present)
- **General Church:**  
The Two Year Academy for Spiritual Formation, GBOD - River Deep & Wide: Retreat Leader,  
Young Pastors' Network – 2011

### CIVIC & COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES:

Stretching Out Our Hands Initiative: Work with the men and women of The Healing Place;  
Partnership with Brooks Elementary School, Douglas Elementary School, and Carroll Middle School; Prison Ministry through Raleigh Correctional Center for Women; North Raleigh Ministries Advisory Board

### WHY YOU BELIEVE YOU SHOULD BE ELECTED:

Experience: With God as my guide and with the assistance of great lay leaders, I've spent the past six years helping St. Mark's UMC revitalize and transform into a active, vibrant, Christ-centered church who's mission is to serve its community and God's World. I know first hand the challenges and joys of inspiring a community of faith to rediscover its calling. No doubt the General Conference must be about this same work and experience a similar transformation.

Passion: Methodism runs deep in my DNA – both literally and spiritually. My great uncle, Rev. Lucius Webb, served faithfully in the Holston and Texas Conferences. But more than that, I passionately believe in John Wesley's vision. I'm frankly tired of talk about decline. I am committed to discovering and boldly pursuing a way forward that embraces our rich inheritance but also resonates with God's desired future. The Young Clergy Focus Group first encouraged me to pursue this. Initially I was hesitant, but after much prayer and encouragement from colleagues and mentors, I've come to see that God has prepared me for such a time as this. I lead theologically from the extreme center and always keep my eyes on Christ.

## BRIAN WAYNE WINGO

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Address: 5532 Jomali Drive Durham, NC 27705

Email: bwingo@nccumc.org

Status: Elder in Full Connection

Date of Last Annual Conference Attended: 2010

PERSONAL INFORMATION: I am a life-long United Methodist and member of the North Carolina Annual Conference. Married to Diane, with three adult daughters.

### EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND:

Northampton County High School, Conway, NC 1978

Methodist University, Fayetteville, NC 1983, BA in Religion

Duke Divinity School, Durham, NC 1988, Master of Divinity

### CHURCH ACTIVITIES:

- **Local Church** – Granville Circuit, (LP), 1984; Brookland-Brooksdale, 1988; DU:Calvary, 1991; Durham: Trinity, Min. of Programs, 1994; Leave of Absence, 7/1/1995; DU: Carr, 1/1/1996; DU: Pleasant Green, 2002
- **District** – District Teller to AC (served as both lay and clergy), District Youth Coordinator; District Council of Ministries, Chairperson; District Committee on Building and Location; District Candidacy Mentor. Co-lead District Pastor's Workteam to Mississippi (post Katrina)
- **Conference** – Currently Chair of Conference Board of Church & Society and Member of the Conference Connectional Table (2008-present). Past member of Conf. Committee of Education; Conf. Commission on Camping and Outdoor Ministries; and the Conf. Council on Youth Ministries
- **General Church** – 2008--Quadrennial Leadership Training; 1995--Certified as a GBGM Health Minister

CIVIC & COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES: I believe in putting our faith into action in the life of our local community and abroad. I have led and/or served on ten Volunteer In Mission trips both abroad (Panama, Costa Rica, El Salvador and US Virgin Islands), regionally (Robeson County and Hinton Rural Life Center) and locally (first board of directors of Person County Christian Help Center, Orange Congregations In Mission and Durham Urban Ministries). I have served on walks and flights with the Heart of Carolina Emmaus/Chrysalis.

### WHY YOU BELIEVE YOU SHOULD BE ELECTED:

As a life-long United Methodist, I have seen our denomination move from a place of clarity of vision, to a place of uncertainty. I feel that the 2012 General Conference will be a pivotal point of time in the life and trajectory of our denomination. Throughout my ministry I have sought to bring consensus to the table of Christian conferencing, by offering a common-sense approach to both biblical interpretation and ministerial experience. In addition to the teachings of Jesus Christ, I believe our General Rules and Social Principles both enhance and guide the life of faithful disciples. I am proud of our Wesleyan heritage and strongly feel that Wesley's principles continue to be vital and relevant to Christian people of the 21st century. I will bring to our delegation a discerning ear and an eye toward the future of our church.

# SAM WYNN

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Email:swynn@nccumc.org

Status: Elder in Full Connection

Date of Last Annual Conference Attended: 2010

## PERSONAL INFORMATION:

I am the father to a 13 year son and local pastor for the past 32 years within the UMC. I was nurtured in the Christian faith in a small rural United Methodist Church in Robeson county and brought to faith in Jesus Christ through United Methodist missionary work among the Lumbee Tribe. For the past 32 year, I have followed God's call to serve His Church in ordained ministry as a servant-leader.

## EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND:

Race: Native American Son: Christopher Little Bear Wynn; Wife: Deceased

Under graduate degree: PSU

Asbury Theological Seminary, MDiv, 1979

Drew Theological Seminary, DMin, 1991

Deacon, 1979, Elder, 1982

## CHURCH ACTIVITIES:

- **Local Church** – Served Rural Churches in Rockingham District; Chaplain and Director of Spiritual Life at the Navajo Academy; Outreach director for The Four Corners Native American Ministry Executive Director of Native American International Caucus DS, New Bern District DS, New Bern District Senior Pastor St. Mark's UMC; Senior Pastor Holland's UMC; Presently Serving DS in the Fayetteville District
- **District** – Fayetteville District, Trustee of Methodist University
- **Conference** – Over 32 years of servant ministry within NC Conference; Served on BD of Ordained Ministry; Served on Bd. Of Missions
- **General Church** – 1980-88 General Commission on Religion and Race; 1988 SEJ Conference; 1992-2000 General Council on Ministries; 2004 General Conference

## CIVIC & COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES:

Clumberland County Association for Indian People

## WHY YOU BELIEVE YOU SHOULD BE ELECTED:

I believe I would provide a unique voice and perspective to the delegation. Further, my Christology is Christ-center, orthodox, Wesleyan coupled with a servant's heart that is committed to scriptural authority, holiness, social justice and the dignity of human life. The unity of the church is important and this General Conference will be instrumental in maintaining and continuing a Christ-centered mission that connects with society. I believe we live in one of the greatest mission ages in the history of the Christian Church. No longer can we afford to be silent about sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ.