

Better Together ... One With Christ

The 2018 Susquehanna Annual Conference

The Service of Commissioning and Ordination

Saturday, June 2, 2018 1:30 p.m.

Ms. Michelle Campbell will provide sign language for this service.

The artwork on the bulletin cover was created by Wayne Osborne, age 9, Good Shepherd UMC, Bloomsburg, Pa.

Note: All hymns and responsive readings will be projected on the screens.
* You are invited to stand.

Gathering to Worship

PRELUDE AND PROCESSION OF CLERGY - 1:15 p.m.

“Prayer of Saint Gregory”

“Now Thank We All Our God”

Dan Stokes

Minister of Music, Trinity UMC- New Cumberland, Pa.

Madisyn R. Bennett and Rev. Randall G. Bennett Jr. - Trumpets

ANTHEM

“Come, Christians, Join to Sing”

Chi Rho Singers

Arranged by Jay Althouse

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

“All Hail the Power of Jesus’ Name”

* GREETING AND PRAYER

Bishop Jeremiah J. Park

Bishop: The grace of Jesus Christ be with you all.

All: And also with you.

Bishop: We come together to praise God, to hear the Holy Word, and to seek for ourselves and others the power, presence, and direction of the Holy Spirit. Let us pray together:

All: Eternal God, by Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit you gave to your apostles many excellent gifts. Give your grace to all servants of your church, that we may with diligence and faithfulness fulfill our various ministries. Grant that we your people may follow where you lead, perfect our ministries, and live in joyful obedience to your will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

* RECOGNITION OF OUR COMMON MINISTRY

Bishop: Ministry is the work of God, done by the people of God. Through baptism all Christians are made part of the priesthood of all believers, the church, Christ’s body, made visible in the world. We all share in Christ’s ministry of love and service for the redemption of the human family and the whole of creation. Therefore, in celebration of our common ministry, I call upon all God’s people gathered here: Remember your baptism and be thankful.

All: We remember our baptism and affirm our common ministry.

Examination and Prayer

PRESENTATION OF PERSONS TO BE COMMISSIONED OR ORDAINED

Mr. John Konieczny, Conference Lay Leader

Rev. Suzanne Elliot, Chair, Board of Ordained Ministry

Rev. Julia Piper, Elder Registrar

Rev. Karen McCachren, Deacon Registrar

(The bishop address the congregation)

Bishop: We ask you, people of God, to declare your assent to the commissioning or ordination of these persons. Do you trust that they are worthy, by God’s grace, to be commissioned or ordained?

All: We do! Thanks be to God!

Bishop: Will you uphold them in their ministry?

All: With God’s help, we will!

THE GENERAL EXAMINATION

Proclaiming the Word

THE OLD AND NEW TESTAMENT LESSONS

Genesis 1:26-31

Acts 2:42-47

Rev. Lenore Hosier

Liberty Charge, Williamsport District

*THE GOSPEL LESSON

Matthew 5:1-12

Rev. Miguel Arenas

Fourth UMC, York District

* HYMN

“God of Grace and God of Glory”

INTRODUCTION OF BISHOP SANDRA STEINER BALL

THE SERMON

“Original Blessing”

Bishop Sandra Steiner Ball

Commissioning

THE EXAMINATION OF PERSONS BEING COMMISSIONED

THE PRAYER OF COMMISSIONING WITH LAYING ON OF HANDS

Please pray in silence for these individuals while they are being commissioned.

ANTHEM

“Ancient Words”

Chi Rho Singers

DeShazo/ Arr. Courtney

Ordination

EXAMINATION OF A DEACON

PRAYER FOR A DEACON WITH LAYING ON OF HANDS

Please pray in silence for this individual while she is being ordained.

EXAMINATION OF THE ELDERS

PRAYER FOR THE ELDERS WITH LAYING ON OF HANDS

Please pray in silence for these individuals while they are being ordained.

THE PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Bishop: Let us pray together:

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

Giving to the Lord

INTRODUCTION TO THE TIME OF GIVING

Bishop Park and

Dr. Dilip Abayasekara

Today’s offering will benefit the Bishop’s Partners In Mission - Advance #7090.

Ushers will invite you to come forward to place your gifts in one of the baskets provided.

You are also invited to use Text2Give by following the instructions on the screens.

* HYMNS

“Marching in the Light of God”

“This Little Light of Mine”

“Marching to Zion”

* PRAYER OF DEDICATION

ALTAR CALL

GIVING OUR COMMITMENTS TO SERVICE

Those sensing a call to Christian service are invited to gather at the cross to the right of the stage for prayer. If you have a cross with you, you are invited to hold it and pray for those who are coming forward.

“Here I Am, Lord”

* PRAYER

Sending Forth

* DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING

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

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

* THE RECESSIONAL HYMNS

“We’ve a Story to Tell to the Nations”

“I Love to Tell the Story”

“Go, Make of All Disciples”

*POSTLUDE

COMMISSIONING / PROVISIONAL ELDER MEMBERSHIP CANDIDATES

John Wesley Bondhus, upon reflection of the last three years of ministry, is grateful for the journey that God has put him on. He is overwhelmed by the support of those who have journeyed with him, from his time in the Baltimore Washington Conference to his time transitioning into the Susquehanna Conference. He believed that ministry was about changing lives, but can say that his life has been changed far more because of the people who have guided him, from his many mentors to his wonderful wife: he says, "thank you." Most importantly, though, he gives thanks to God for His faithful guidance and love as he continues to grow into the pastor that he needs to be. He was first recommended for pastoral ministry by Glen Mar United Methodist Church in Ellicott City, Md.

David Keyworth was born in Midland, Michigan. He accepted Christ as his personal savior at a young age, and was highly involved in his home church. He graduated from Albion College, a United Methodist affiliated liberal arts college, with a degree in history and psychology in 2011. At Albion, he felt a call to ordained ministry, and to attend Asbury Theological seminary, where he met his wife, Meghan. He graduated with his Master of Divinity degree in 2015, and was appointed to Tyrone Wesley. He is grateful to God for God's grace and gifts of music, preaching, and teaching. He was first recommended for pastoral ministry by Midland First United Methodist Church in Midland Mich.

John Franklin Mackey first felt God's call to ministry in the eighth grade while attending St. Paul UMC in Chambersburg. He attended Elizabethtown College and then went to Yale University. After graduation he returned to Pennsylvania and began attending Evangelical UMC. It was there that he again felt God's call and began to answer this call. He attended Wesley Theological Seminary to complete his Master of Divinity degree. He thanks God for his call in his life, and his family for their support as he seeks to faithfully answer God's call. He was first recommended for pastoral ministry by Evangelical United Methodist Church in Middletown, Pa.

Kristopher Ray Sledge first decided to follow Jesus and ultimately answer God's call into ordained ministry at Christ Community in Selinsgrove, Pa. It was through people like Barry Robison and Kathy Kind, pastors at Christ Community, who supported and cultivated God's call in his life. They helped him realize a call he did not even know existed at the time, and supported him to pursue this call at Messiah College and later at Wesley Theological Seminary. There are countless other persons who have chosen to journey and support him. He is ultimately grateful for God, whose grace was sufficient for him and continues to redeem his life. He was first recommended for pastoral ministry by Christ Community United Methodist Church in Selinsgrove, Pa.

Donald J. Smith thanks God for the people of the Osceola Mills church and Pastor Steve Knitter, who were able to see God's call on his life and who supported him through his early years. Then the Morgan Run Charge that walked with him in ministry while he also completed his degree at Penn State and Wesley Seminary, and now Park Forest Village as he continues this journey. He also thanks God for his wife, family, and friends who have been with him this whole journey. He is thankful for God's grace and strength that has carried him this far. He was first recommended for pastoral ministry by Osceola Mills United Methodist Church in Osceola Mills, Pa.

ORDINATION/DEACONS' AND ELDERS' ORDERS / FULL MEMBERSHIP CANDIDATES

Deacons' Orders

Ruth L. Myers was born in Red Lion, Pa., and is married to Luke Myers. They have two children, Josie and Henry. She graduated from Red Lion Area High School, Red Lion, Pa. She is also a graduate of William & Mary, Johns Hopkins School of Nursing, Duke University School of Nursing, and Duke Divinity School. She serves beyond the local church through Mercy Health, St. Rita's Professional Services, and she affiliates with Ada First United Methodist Church in the Northwest Plains District of the West Ohio Conference. She was first recommended for pastoral ministry by St. Paul's United Methodist Church in Red Lion, Pa.

Elders' Orders

Ron Baker accepted Jesus as Lord and Savior as an adult, and he committed to follow wherever God led. Initially, this was to various Bible studies and on to volunteer positions at his church. Then God led him into prison ministry. After a few years, he realized God was calling him to do more. However, his career was in IT, and he knew that he needed to make a choice. After prayerful consideration, numerous discussions with his wife, and many signs from God that made his path clear, he "left his nets" and started seminary at the age of 50. He was first recommended for pastoral ministry by Dorranceton United Methodist Church in Kingston, Pa.

Audrey M. Brosious is continually amazed and humbled by God's call on her life to ordained ministry. Responding to God's call has been a journey of taking one faithful, and sometimes scary, step at a time and finding God already there. She especially experienced God's presence through the support, encouragement, and affirmation of her mentors, family, and friends. She is deeply grateful for her husband, who not only supported her but also cheered her on during those times when the journey seemed too much for her. She is also thankful for the support of her church families who lovingly taught her how to be a pastor. She was first recommended for pastoral ministry by Mifflinville United Methodist Church in Mifflinville, Pa.

Richard P. Hanlon Jr. has experienced quite an adventure after responding to God's call, which has quickened in pace shortly after Erin and he were married in 2010. He will be forever grateful for the support, encouragement, and affirmation given by God through Hollidaysburg First United Methodist Church. He is also grateful for God's nurturing presence, which found expression through professors, pastors, and friends at Pittsburgh Theological Seminary and Hot Metal Bridge Faith Community. He also wants to express his gratitude for those whom he has had the joy of serving alongside in his current appointment at the United Methodist Church of Wellsboro. God is good! He was first recommended for pastoral ministry by Hollidaysburg First United Methodist Church in Hollidaysburg, Pa.

Rebecca L. Holland was raised in the small town of Bloomsburg, Pa., where she graduated in 2006 from Central Columbia High School. In 2011 she graduated from Millersville University of Pennsylvania with a Bachelor of Science in English Education. She received her Master of Divinity from Wesley Theological Seminary in Washington, D.C., in 2014. During seminary, she served as an intern at Metropolitan Memorial United Methodist Church Cooperative Parish and at the General Board of Church and Society. She is especially passionate about ministry to people with disabilities, and is deeply grateful to her home church, her family, the wonderful people at Christ Community United Methodist Church, her female clergy mentors, and her beloved husband. She was first recommended for pastoral ministry by Ridge St. United Methodist Church in Bloomsburg, Pa.

Rebecca J. (Woomer) McGee was raised and nurtured in her faith at Hick's Memorial United Methodist Church in Duncansville, Pa. Both at home and in this congregation, pastored by Rev. Tom Irwin, she learned about God's love for us and how we are to love one another. She thanks her Sunday school teachers, Methodist Youth Fellowship leaders, and the people of Hick's Memorial for their love. She is very grateful to the following for their encouragement: Faith United Methodist Church Bellefonte, Revs. Doyle Klinger, Brenda Leigey, Marian Hartman, Pat Woolever, Dr. Pam Ford, Bethany Wood, Chuck Sprenkle, Greg Milinovich, and the people of St. Paul's United Methodist Church and Wesley Foundation. She was first recommended for pastoral ministry by Faith United Methodist Church in Bellefonte, Pa.

Jonathan D. Morningstar would like to express his thanks for the many people who have mentored and supported him in this journey, especially Dr. Reta Finger, his professor at both Messiah College and Eastern Mennonite Seminary, who's passion for the kingdom of God is a continuing source of inspiration. Through this shepherding, he has come to know God in a more personal way. These folks, through their faithfulness, have led him to the Holy Spirit. In these uncertain times, as our church faces unprecedented challenges, he prays that God will use him as God has used the many mentors he has had, as a signpost for the way of grace that leads us home. He was first recommended for pastoral ministry by Rhodes Memorial United Methodist Church in Lewistown, Pa.



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