

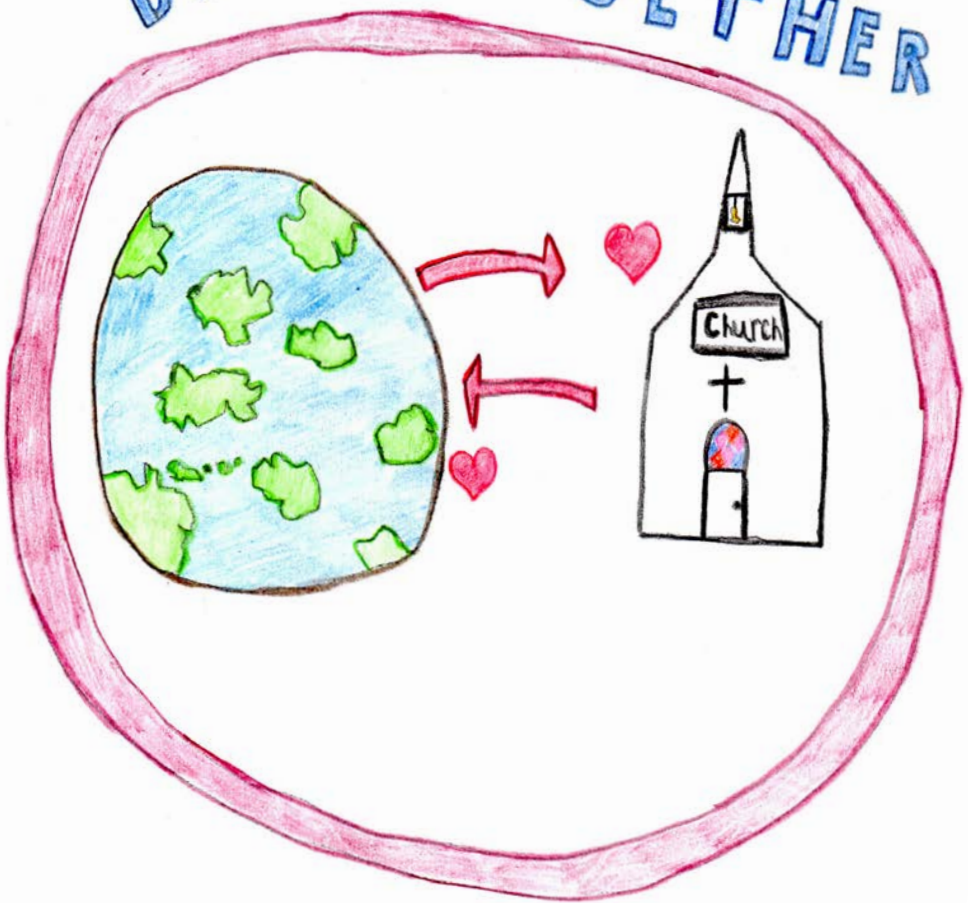


2019

Susquehanna Conference

The United Methodist Church

BETTER TOGETHER



The Service of Commissioning and Ordination

Hershey Lodge - Hershey, Pa.

Better Together ... One with Each Other

The 2019 Susquehanna Annual Conference

The Service of Commissioning and Ordination

Saturday, June 1, 2019 1:00 p.m.

During Worship, an ASL interpreter will be available at the front of the room near the organ.

Those who more easily communicate with sign language are encouraged to sit near the interpreter.

The artwork on the bulletin cover was created by Gavin Lykon, age 10 Holy Trinity Church - Troy

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 - 12:45 p.m.

Dan Stokes - Piano

Madisyn R. Bennett and Rev. Randall G. Bennett Jr. - Trumpets
Christ Community UMC - Selinsgrove

ANTHEM

"Thine is the Kingdom"

Chi Rho Singers
by Pepper Choplin

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

(The bishop address the congregation)

Bishop: These persons are by God's grace to be commissioned, or ordained to ministry in Christ's holy church. Those authorized by the Church to inquire about them have discerned that they are persons of sound learning and of Christian character. They possess the necessary gifts and evidence of God's grace, and have demonstrated a profound commitment to serve Jesus Christ. Therefore, we believe them to be duly called to serve God.

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 LESSON

Ezekiel 34:1-31
Psalm 23
Rev. Mira Hewlett
Carlisle UMC - Carlisle

***THE GOSPEL LESSON**

John 10:11-18
Pastor Robert Henry
Greater Shawville Parish - Shawville

***HYMN**

"God of Grace and God of Glory"
Dan Stokes - Piano

INTRODUCTION of BISHOP IVAN ABRAHAMS

PRAYER

THE SERMON

"Worthy Shepherds - Keeping the Flock Together"
Bishop Ivan Abrahams

***HYMN**

"Here I Am, Lord"

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.

Ordination

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

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.

***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.

***HYMN**

“The Voice of God Is Calling”

***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

David Neal Layser was born in Harrisburg, Pa. He grew up in Hershey, where his family attended Fishburn UMC, which is his sending church as he discerned a call to pastoral ministry in high school. After graduating from Messiah College, he married his high school sweetheart, Emily (Parker), also from Fishburn. He served 8 years as a local license pastor as an associate of Halifax UMC, while he completed his MDiv from Asbury Theological Seminary. In July 2018, he began a new appointment at Trinity UMC, Danville, where he currently serves. David and Emily have four children, four and younger: Julia, Edison, Gideon, and Joel. David's greatest blessings have been witnessing the transformative grace of God working in and through the local church. David is blessed to serve alongside Emily in many ways, as she carries a passion for children and youth ministries.

David R. A. McElwee was born in Chambersburg, Pennsylvania, the son the Rev. Dr. Ronald and Gloria McElwee. He graduated from Lycoming College in 2006 and from Wesley Theological Seminary in 2015. In 2014 he married his wife, Samantha, and is the father to Abigail and Andrew. He was recommended by Park Avenue UMC in Chambersburg. He currently serves the East Salem/Otterbein charge in the State College District. One of the many blessings he has witnessed in his life has been the changes Christ has made in other's lives.

Beth A. Pyles was born in Bedford, Pa. She was recommended for pastoral ministry by the Everett UMC. Beth is married to Chris. She is a graduate of Ohio Christian University. She received her seminary degree from Evangelical Theological Seminary in Myerstown, Pa. At present Beth is serving the East End and Jaggard First UMC charge in the Altoona District. Beth described one of the real blessings and honor in her ministry is to join God's children on their journey with God. She rejoices in seeing people respond to that journey to know God.

Daniel L. Wilt was born in Altoona, Pa. He went to the University of Valley Forge where he earned a degree in Theological Studies. He then went on to study in Washington, DC at Wesley theological Seminary. As a youth, Daniel found his way to Second Avenue UMC in Altoona, where they recommended him for ordained ministry. Currently, Daniel serves alongside the people of St. Paul's UMC in Lewisburg, PA, in the Lewisburg District. One of the blessings Daniel has in ministry is seeing people come alive in serving Christ. To see that shift from someone who attends church to someone who is the church is a powerful blessing.

ORDINATION ELDERS' ORDERS / FULL MEMBERSHIP CANDIDATES

Elders' Orders

Joshua W. Davinsizer was born in Bellwood, PA. He is a 2012 graduate of Lycoming College where he participated in the Pre-Ministerial program and majored in Religion and History, graduating Magna Cum Laude. Upon graduation from college, he furthered his education at Wesley Theological Seminary. He graduated in 2015 with his Master of Divinity degree with Academic Honors. He currently serves in the Williamsport District at the Troy Trinity Parish in Troy, PA. This charge includes the newly merged Holy Trinity Church and the Windfall UMC. Over his years in ministry, he believes that one of the many blessings he has received is being able to partner with the Holy Spirit and see people give their life to Jesus Christ and be excited about building God's Kingdom here on earth.

Joseph Samuel Hopkins was born in Harrisburg, PA. Joe is married to Kacie Greer Hopkins. He went to Bucknell University for his undergraduate degree, and he then attended Chicago Theological Seminary. Wesley UMC in Marysville, PA first recommended Joe for ordained ministry. He currently serves Avis UMC in the Williamsport District. While serving in ministry, God has blessed Joe with many adventures in mission, including Bible school and the children and adults of Avis, social justice advocacy in Williamsport, and education at the United Nations.

Stephanie P. Rupert was born in Lincoln, Nebraska and was transplanted to Mercersburg, PA as a teenager. She attended Messiah College and then Wesley Theological Seminary. She was recommended for ministry by First United Methodist Church, Mercersburg, PA. Her husband is Victor Rupert and they are the parents of a daughter, Gemma (2). They are her greatest joy and support. Currently, she is appointed to the McVeytown/Wayne Charge in the State College District. One of her greatest blessings as a pastor is the connectional nature of her job. The opportunity to connect with her colleagues, congregation members, community members, and others in so many diverse and unexpected ways is unique to our vocation and inspires and supports me in the work we do together.

Joshua Stephen Wargo was born and raised in Wilkes-Barre, PA. He is married to Whitney and is the father of Kinsley. He is a graduate of Misericordia University in Dallas, Pa, and Wesley Theological Seminary in Washington, DC. He was recommended for the ministry by the Dorranceton UMC in Kingston, PA in the Scranton Wilkes-Barre District. He is currently appointed to the Rouserville Charge in the York District. Joshua wrote: "As a pastor I love to see people make the decision to become followers of Jesus Christ."