






	<p>Rev. Wanda Duckett Senior Pastor, Monroe Street United Methodist Church Baltimore, MD</p> <p>Rev. Duckett is an itinerate deacon in the AME church and currently serves as pastor of the Monroe Street United Methodist Church in southwest Baltimore. She serves on the “Hope for the City” Council for strategic ministry in the new Baltimore Metropolitan District and as this year’s Hope Fellow on the Baltimore Region staff. In 2008, she led her congregation to receive the Northeastern Jurisdiction’s <i>Kim Jefferson Award</i> for effective urban ministry. She was also honored by Goodwill Industries of the Chesapeake as the 2009 “<i>Good Guy of the Year</i>” for community service.</p>
	<p>Dr. Thomas White Wolf-Fassett North Central New York Annual Conference</p> <p>As emeritus General Secretary of the international rights organization of The United Methodist Church, Dr. Fassett brings a rich and varied background of experience as he works in the field of faith, politics and issues of justice. Dr. Fassett has worked extensively in radio and television hosting three radio programs and co-hosting a daily television series that ran for six years during the NBC <i>Today</i> program. He has also been extensively involved in civic organizations including service as Executive Chairperson of the Indian Manpower Planning Consortium sponsored by the Seneca Nation of Indians. Dr. Fassett has written and published extensively, authoring <i>Giving Our Hearts Away: Native American Survival</i>, co-authoring three other books, and writing over 300 articles appearing in periodicals and scholarly publications. An internationally recognized champion of human and civil rights and an outspoken defender of Native and indigenous rights, Fassett has traveled throughout the world to assist those whose voices need to be heard.</p>
	<p>Angella Current-Felder Executive Director, Office of Loans and Scholarships General Board of Higher Education and Ministry</p> <p>Mrs. Current-Felder joined the United Methodist Board of Higher Education and Ministry in December 1985, and is responsible for the administration and management of the Office of Loans and Scholarships, which awards approximately \$6 million in loans and scholarships to over 3,500 students annually. Mrs. Current-Felder serves as the agency liaison for the Africa University Endowment Fund Campaign and provides technical and programmatic support to the AU Board of Directors. A member of Gordon Memorial UMC in Nashville, TN, Mrs. Current-Felder for 12 years, chaired Phase I of Gordon’s Building and Revitalization Committee which in December 2001 consecrated a 3.5 million sanctuary, administrative offices, and multipurpose room. Mrs. Current-Felder sings in the Chancel Choir and is chair of Gordon’s Stewardship Committee. In February 2001, Abingdon Press, published her book, <i>Breaking Barriers: An African American Family and the Methodist Story</i> available at Cokesbury bookstores.</p>
	<p>Dr. Aida Irizarry Fernandez Senior Pastor, Mathewson Street United Methodist Church Providence, RI</p> <p>The Rev. Dr. Fernandez is currently appointed to Mathewson Street UMC in Providence, RI. She was appointed July 1, 2000-2003 to the Metro Boston North District and in July 2003 she was appointed to the new Metro Boston Hope District in the New England Conference where she served until June 30, 2008. She also served as the Associate Council Director in the former Northern New Jersey Conference. She was ordained as an elder in the Southern New England Conference in 1991. Her previous experience includes pastoral ministry, clinical social work, leadership development and psychotherapy. In addition, Rev. Fernandez served as a consultant to the National</p>

	<p>Hispanic Plan for eight years. She is often called as a guest preacher, guest speaker, workshop facilitator, and bible study leader. She was reassigned for a second term to the boards of directors of the General Board of Global Ministries. She serves as a board member of the Anna Howard Shaw Center at the Boston University School of Theology and is currently serving as faculty for the Curso de Estudio at Garret Evangelical Seminary in Evanston, Illinois. Rev. Fernandez has also traveled abroad to Europe, Africa, Korea, and Latin America.</p>
	<p>Justin Jones-Fosu Host, Listen Up WEEA-FM Baltimore, MD</p> <p>Justin Jones-Fosu is an entrepreneur, an inspirational speaker, and a community leader. He is the President/CEO of JS Training Solutions, a training and development company that conducts dynamic, relevant, results-driven and interactive seminars on leadership development, professional development, and career preparation. Justin is also the president of JUSTIN INSPIRES, a company driven to provide high-energy and practical motivational speaking. In 2008, Justin was named as one of <i>EBONY Magazine's</i> 30 Young Leaders on the rise and as University of Baltimore's Distinguished Student Entrepreneur of the Year. He is the author of <i>Inspiration for Life</i>, a collection of original poems that inspire you to THINK, BELIEVE, and ACT.</p>
	<p>Erin M. Hawkins General Secretary, General Commission on Religion and Race</p> <p>Ms. Hawkins became the fourth General Secretary of the General Commission on Religion and Race in September 2007. She joined the staff as an Associate General Secretary in 2001, serving as a staff representative and resource consultant to the Southeastern Jurisdiction, Black Methodists for Church Renewal (BMCR), the Strengthening the Black Church for the 21st Century Initiative and other ministries serving the denomination's black constituency. She is a Harry Hosier Life Member of BMCR. A native of Los Angeles, Erin is a lifelong member of Saint Mark United Methodist Church there, and has taught Sunday school and served as an usher, liturgist, choir member and district delegate to annual conference. A certified lay speaker, she has been a grant writer, program developer, and frequent preacher, keynote speaker and facilitator for local, district, conference and churchwide events.</p>
	<p>Dr. Cynthia Hopson Assistant General Secretary, Black College Fund General Board of Higher Education and Ministry</p> <p>From 1995-2005 Dr. Hopson was a journalism professor at the University of Memphis and was twice selected through national competition as an American Society of Newspaper Editors Journalism Excellence Fellow. Dr. Hopson now serves as Assistant General Secretary for the Black College Fund and Ethnic Concerns for the Division of Higher Education at the United Methodist Church's General Board of Higher Education and Ministry.</p> <p>In 2002, she launched the Touched By Grace Professional Communications Ministry, which offers women's retreat leadership, diversity consultation; and training, writing, musical, and public speaking services to businesses, churches and organizations. She is author of <i>Wiggle Tales</i>, <i>A Collection of Hopson's Haywood Columns from the Brownsville States</i>, <i>Times of Challenge and Controversy: Voter Registration in Haywood County, 1960-1961</i>, <i>A Content Analysis of Local, Regional and National Newspaper Coverage</i>, <i>Bad Hair Days</i>, <i>Rainy Days</i>, and <i>Mondays--Wisdom and Encouragement to Lift a Woman's Spirit</i>, and <i>Too Many Irons in the Fire and They're all Smoking!</i></p>



Dr. Walter Kimbrough
President, Philander Smith College
Little Rock, AR

Dr. Walter M. Kimbrough is the twelfth president of Philander Smith College in Little Rock, AR, one of the youngest college presidents in the nation. Dr. Kimbrough has forged a national reputation as an expert on historically Black fraternities and sororities. He has conducted interviews with national publications including the *Washington Post* and the *Chronicle of Higher Education*. He has also been a guest on the National Public Radio show, "Talk of the Nation." Dr. Kimbrough has given over 450 presentations on Black Greek life at numerous campuses and conferences. He is the author of the book *Black Greek 101: The Culture, Customs and Challenges of Black Fraternities and Sororities*. Locally, he is a member of the board of directors for the Greater Little Rock Chamber of Commerce, as well as the Heart of Arkansas United Way.



Rev. Abby Kocher
Community Minister, Duke University Chapel
Durham, NC

In July 2006, The Rev. Abby Kocher joined the Duke Chapel staff as Community Minister. Prior to joining us on staff at Duke Chapel, Abby worked for the Z. Smith Reynolds Foundation in Winston-Salem, NC, and as Director of Missions at Davidson United Methodist Church in Davidson, NC. She also worked with Duke Divinity School's Center for Reconciliation. Abby is an elder in the Western North Carolina Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church. As Community Minister, Abby builds relationships with congregations, nonprofit organizations, households, and individuals in Durham's greater West End.



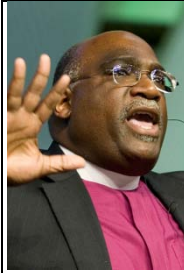
Rev. Dr. Pamela Lightsey
Associate Vice President for Student Affairs and Dean of Students
Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary
Evanston, IL

Dr. Lightsey serves as the Associate Vice President of Student Affairs and Dean of Students at the Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary where she coordinates and plans student affairs programs, provides leadership for the school's emergency preparedness planning, and functions as the liaison with Northwestern University for emergency preparedness activities. Her other accomplishments include revising the existing emergency preparedness system to comply with the Illinois' Campus Security Enhancement Act of 2008, establishing quarterly discussions with the City of Evanston's first responders, creating a dialogue session with students called the *Dean's Listening Hour* that functions as a proactive mechanism to minimize conflict and provide information, and with the President and Leadership Team, developing the school's five-year Strategic Plan.



Rev. Martin McLee
District Superintendent, New England Conference

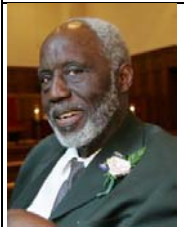
Reverend McLee serves as a District Superintendent in the Metro Boston Hope District of the New England Conference of the United Methodist Church. He is the former Senior Pastor of the Union United Methodist Church in Boston's South End. Moreover, Reverend McLee serves on the Adjunct faculty at Simmons College in the Graduate school of Social Work. Reverend McLee is a frequent lecturer on issues concerning HIV/AIDS and the faith community, race and racism, and on matters relating to class distinctions.



Bishop Gregory Palmer
 Illinois Great Rivers Conference
 President, Council of Bishops
 Bishop Gregory Vaughn Palmer was assigned as Episcopal Leader of the Illinois Area of The United Methodist Church in 2008. Ordained a deacon and probationary member in the Eastern Pennsylvania Conference in 1977, Palmer was ordained an elder in full connection in the East Ohio Conference in 1981. In 2000, Palmer was elected to the episcopacy by the North Central Jurisdictional Conference. He was assigned to the Iowa Area where he served until assuming responsibilities in the Illinois Area. Bishop Palmer served the past quadrennium as president of the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry and is currently president of the Council of Bishops.



Rev. Anita Phillips
 Executive Director, Native American Comprehensive Plan
 Rev. Phillips is a member of the Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma and an elder in the Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference. She is presently appointed to the extension ministry and serves as the Executive Director of the Native American Comprehensive Plan (NACP). She has previously served several Native American churches in Oklahoma and was a district superintendent for six years. Prior to entering formal ministry, she served as a social worker for over twenty years within Native American communities. She has served on many boards, committees, and agencies at all levels of the UMC and currently serves as the chair of the Board of Ordained Ministry within her annual conference.






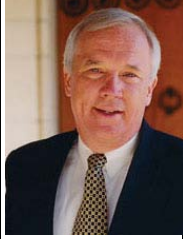
Rev. Bill Robinson
 Pastor Emeritus
 Theresa Hoover United Methodist Church
 Little Rock, AR
 Rev. Dr. Robinson, a native of Little Rock, AR, served as Senior Pastor of Theresa Hoover United Methodist Church for 28 years. In 2007, Rev. Robinson retired as the Senior Pastor and presently serves as the Pastor Emeritus. He is the founder and Executive Director of Black Community Developers Inc, a concrete and valuable resource to the community. Black community Developers, Inc houses programs that seek to assist people by providing services to eliminate the drug problems running rampant throughout our nation. Whatever drugs have destroyed in the lives of people and their families, Black community Developers, Inc. seeks to rebuild. Rev. Robinson understands that drug addiction and human suffering of any kind affects all people; therefore, he reaches out to the need, regardless of the race, creed, or color of the person in need.



Dr. Rosetta Ross
 Associate Professor of Religion
 Spelman College
 Atlanta, GA
 Dr. Ross, a fifth generation Methodist, is an ordained elder in the South Carolina Conference and associate professor of religion at Spelman College. She has served the church as a school teacher, lay speaker, and pastor. A former member of the Bioethics Task Force for the General Board of Church and Society and a former resource person for the General Commission on the Status and Role of Women, Ross currently works with the Women of Color Doctoral Scholars Program of the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry.

Ross' academic work focuses primarily on black Christian women's activism. A child of the Civil Rights Movement who helped integrate public schools in rural South Carolina, Rosetta authored many articles and one monograph, *The Status of Racial and Ethnic*

	<p><i>Clergwomen in the United Methodist Church</i>. Her book <i>Witnessing and Testifying: Black Women, Religion, and Civil Rights</i> was published in 2003.</p>
	<p>Rev. Kelvin Sauls Assistant General Secretary Congregational Development & Racial Ethnic Ministries General Board of Global Ministries</p> <p>A prophetic pastor at heart, Rev. Sauls brings to the office of Congregational Development & Racial Ethnic Ministries years of experience in, and passion for congregational transformation, community organizing, and justice ministries in the Methodist Church of Southern Africa and the United Methodist Church in the United States. Rev. Sauls is an ordained Elder in the California-Nevada Conference and his involvement includes serving on the Immigration Task Force, the Israel/Palestine Taskforce, the Angola Partnership Team and the Board of Church & Society. He provided pastoral leadership for the Red Ribbon Retreat for people living with HIV/AIDS.</p>
	<p>Rev. Jasmine Smothers Associate Pastor, Atlanta First United Methodist Church Atlanta, GA</p> <p>Rev. Smothers is the Senior Associate Pastor at First United Methodist Church of Atlanta, GA. There Rev. Smothers primarily serves the areas of education, age level ministries, young adults, worship and administration. She serves the Church and her community as a workshop facilitator, consultant, advocate, and preacher. She also serves as the president of the North Georgia Annual Conference's (NGUMC) Young Adult Ministry and is a graduate of the NGUMC's New Church Leadership Academy. Rev. Smothers serves as the co-chair of Division of Young People's Ministries for the Southeastern Jurisdiction of the UMC and as a board member for the General Commission on Religion and Race of the UMC. She has represented the Young Adults of the Southeastern Jurisdiction of the UMC at the World Methodist Evangelism Conference in South Korea and the Global Gathering and Legislative Assembly for Young People in South Africa.</p>
	<p>Rev. Christina Sung St. John's United Methodist Church Des Moines, IA</p> <p>Rev. Dr. Sung, born and raised in a Buddhist family in Seoul, Korea, was introduced to the saving grace of Jesus while studying in Germany. In 1987, she became the first person in her family to convert to Christianity. She was educated in Germany, Singapore, and the United States and lived in the United Kingdom for a year, as well as in Indonesia where she completed field research for her doctoral dissertation. In 2001, she was the recipient of the Denman Evangelism Award by the Iowa Annual Conference. Rev. Sung serves God with various connectional ministries within the UMC: General Conference delegate 2008, present member of the General Board of Commission on Religion and Race, vice-chair of the CORR with the Iowa Annual Conference, a member of the BOM in the Iowa Conference, previously the vice-president of the National Korean Association of the UMC and the vice-president of the National Association of Korean-American UMC Clergwomen.</p>



Bishop William Willimon
North Alabama Conference

The Rev. Dr. Willimon has been a Bishop of The United Methodist Church since 2004. He leads the 157,000 Methodists and 792 pastors in North Alabama. For 20 years he was Dean of the Chapel and Professor of Christian Ministry at Duke University, Durham, NC. He is the author of sixty books and his *Worship as Pastoral Care* was selected as one of the 10 most useful books for pastors in 1979 by the Academy of Parish Clergy. In 1996, an international survey conducted by Baylor University named him one of the Twelve Most Effective Preachers in the English-speaking world. Bishop Willimon has given lectures and taught courses at many pastors' schools and at colleges and universities in the United States, Canada, Europe, and Asia. He has served as vice chairman of the Board of Trustees, Wofford College; chairperson of the University Council Committee for the Institute of Sacred Music at Yale; and on the Board of Overseers for Memorial Church, Harvard University, and the Boards of Emory, Birmingham-Southern, and Huntingdon Colleges. He serves on the editorial boards of *The Christian Century*, *The Christian Ministry*, *Preaching*, *The Wittenburg Door*, and *Leadership*.



Rev. David Wilson
Superintendent, Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference

Rev. Wilson is currently serving as the Conference Superintendent of the Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference of The United Methodist Church, which is comprised of 89 Native American churches in the state of Oklahoma, Kansas, and Texas. He was ordained as an elder in 1995. Rev. Wilson has served as an adjunct professor of religion for the past nine years at Oklahoma City University, a United-Methodist related University. He is also an adjunct professor for the Perkins Course of Study Program and a member of the Board of Trustees for Oklahoma City University. Rev. Wilson is a member of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma and his home town is Muskogee, Oklahoma.