

Clergy Delegate Nominees

These profiles are slightly edited from the ones submitted by nominees to the Conference Secretary. Omitted here are: past church appointments and years of service; college and seminary degrees; awards; and family members beyond spouse. Full profiles can be found in the Annual Conference 2019 section of the conference website at www.epaumc.org/annual-conference.



Rev. Tracy L. Bass, Esq.
East District,
Eastern PA
Conference

Career: Superintendent. Former Conference Secretary, Former Pastor and Licensed Attorney

Ministries:

- **Connectional:** Secretary, Board of Directors, Wespath (UMC Benefits and Investments); Conference Board of Pension and Health Benefits; Ex Officio member of District and Conference Boards, Committees, Commissions; Ministries, etc., including BOOM, DCOM, Metro Ministries, and BMCR.
- **Ecumenical:** Member, Urban Theological Institute of United Lutheran Seminary

Other Information: As a current member of the Pennsylvania Bar, I have provided legal education for chancellors through the General Council on Finance and Administration's Legal Forum.

Statement: Throughout the various seasons of my life I'm guided by scripture. In this season I meditate on the following passage: "You will make known to me the path of life; In Your presence is fullness of joy; In Your right hand there are pleasures forever." Psalm 16:11



Rev. Andrea Brown

Church: Lancaster: Grandview UMC

Career: Lead Pastor and formerly Associate

Pastor; Journalist; Public-school teacher; Adjunct seminary professor

Ministries:

- **Connectional—Current:** Board of Ordained Ministry, Whites Confronting Racism, MANIFEST (Lancaster affordable housing development partnership). **Past:** Board of Pensions & Health Benefits; SpiritNet editor; District Ministries Planning Team; Tools for Ministry keynoter; Support for Anchorage Breakfast Program (Lancaster: First UMC) and district ministries.
- **Ecumenical:** Lancaster County Clergy Partnership for Education (part of POWER); NAACP clergy group; Manheim Township Ministerium; Local ministry partnerships providing food, shelter, clothing, and refugee and immigration services; Embrace Lancaster (support of LGBTQ+ people of faith); Reentry Management Organization and other criminal justice reform programs.

Publications: Co-author of *Out of Exodus: A Journey in Open & Affirming Ministry*; Newspaper articles on mission trip to visit GBGM missionaries in Nepal and on fair educational funding; Sermon on transfiguration published online by *Lectionary Homiletics* (goodpreacher.com)

Other Information: Spouse: Tim Buckwalter.

Statement: As an observer of the 2019 General Conference, my heart was broken for the state of The United Methodist Church. More even than at the outcome, I felt despair at winners-and-losers processes, dispirited worship, and a sense of human disconnection. There was not much that felt holy about the conferencing.

I know it can be otherwise. I know because I serve and lead a healthy, growing congregation that has as many conservatives as liberals, yet is able to gather, knowing that God is bigger than any of our individual perspectives. I have seen that it is possible in such a setting to love and affirm LGBTQ+ people in a way they recognize as loving and affirming. I have seen that it is hard, yet life-giving for a historically white congregation to work actively on the ways that racism infects and limits us and others. I have seen that it is possible to discuss and make decisions in contentious matters without spite

or bitterness or deceit. I have seen that it is beneficial, when we hurt others, to aim for true repentance. And I am regularly in worship in which the Spirit's presence is evident, known in tears and joy and answered prayer.

The Lord's Prayer and 1 John 4:7-12 and the hymns of the Wesleys are central to my faith. Luke 4:18-19 inspires my calling. "Letter from a Birmingham Jail" (written by the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr.) convicts me. I am an evangelistically-minded, Bible-believing, people-loving, hope-filled Christian.



Rev. David W. Brown

Church: Wharton-Wesley UMC

Career: Deacon, Temple University Assistant Professor (public relations and advertising);

Marketing/Public Relations professional.

Ministries:

- **Connectional:** Black Methodists for Church Renewal; Healing the Wounds of Racism; Communications Ministry Team; Conference Board of Trustees; African American Methodist Heritage Center
- **Ecumenical:** New Conversation on Race and Ethnicity (New-CORE); MLK Day of Service; Global Citizen; International Peace Day; Peace Day Philadelphia; Bridge Walk for Peace.

Publications: Author of *Freedom Drawn from Within*, a history of the former Delaware Conference and the historic role African Americans have had in shaping our denomination. WHYY Speakeasy essays: "Making diversity happen from the classroom to the corner suite," "Voting for a 'Jawn' That Matters," and "Am I a Stranger to My Brother?"

Other Information: I have helped lead Wharton-Wesley UMC in being selected for the Sacred Places/Civic Spaces building redesign program to revitalize our 175-year-old Philadelphia church into a contemporary community resource.

Statement: This has been one of the most challenging times for us as a denomination. I have had to sit with many close friends and family who have questioned whether they should remain United

Methodist, given much of the turmoil we have experienced. However, I firmly believe that to be “United” we need not all agree. Instead, we need to find common ground that allows all voices to be heard in becoming the church that God intends, in which we are all embraced – regardless of ethnicity, sexual identity, political affiliation or anything that keeps us from loving one another.



Rev. Edward (Eddie) Locke Cameron

Church: Hopewell UMC, Downingtown, PA

Career: Deacon; Associate Pastor;

Pastor of Administration and Evangelism; Minister of Spiritual Growth.

Ministries:

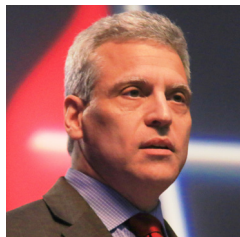
- **Connectional:** Board of Ordained Ministry, Co-chair Residency in Ministry; Jeremiah 29 Team; Safe Sanctuary Committee; Whites Confronting Racism cohort. Ecumenical: Lancaster Downtown Ministerium; Founder of Labor for Lancaster, a city-wide Day of Service supported by Lancaster churches; Lancaster County Council of Churches (meal ministry).

Other Information: Spouse: Lisa Cameron

Statement: *We are living in turbulent times, as together we navigate the waters surrounding us that ebb and flow with differing opinions of church, culture, faith, and God’s divine Spirit. At times the waters feel like dams breaking, overwhelming us and too deep to find our footing. Yet, in these uncertain times, we must realize God is once again at work, forming something new and good, just as God did during creation (Genesis 1:1-2). As a nominee for delegate to the 2020 General Conference of The United Methodist Church, I cling to the promise of God to restore our health and heal our wounds (Jeremiah 30:17), and in the hope of Christ, to complete in us what God has started (Philippians 1:6).*

God’s Spirit is stirring over our chaos once again. God is creating something new and good in our midst that will honor and glorify Jesus our Lord. And God invites us all to actively and courageously participate in this new creation story God is revealing to us and the world. As a delegate, I will be faithful to God’s call on my life as a deacon

to seek justice and compassion, serve my sisters and brothers with integrity and authenticity, and proclaim the Good News of Jesus Christ as revealed to us in the Old and New testaments. It is my prayer that God’s creative and life-giving powers be realized once again in our beloved church. Amen.



Rev. Joseph F. DiPaolo

Church: Lancaster: First UMC

Career: Lead Pastor

Ministries:

• Connectional--Current:

Commission on the General Conference; General Commission on Archives & History; President, NEJ Commission on Archives & History. **Past:** Delegate to General & NEJ conferences; NEJ Vision Team; EPAC Archives & History and Historical Society; Laity Academy instructor; Chair, Mid-Town Parish Vision Team; Urban Commission; Chair, EPAC Administrative Support Review Team

- **Ecumenical Ministries:** Adjunct Professor, Evangelical Seminary, Myerstown, and Palmer Theological Seminary, Philadelphia; Trustee, Evangelical Seminary; Advisory Board, Campolo Center for Ministry, Eastern University; President, Delaware Valley Council of Churches.

Publications: Wide Views and a Loving Heart: The Life and Ministry of Bishop Levi Scott, EPAC Historical Society, 2018; “So Shall Their Chains Fall Off”: Bishop Levi Scott and Nineteenth Century Black Methodism, in Methodist History 55:4 (July 2017), 241-264; “A Very Singular Man: Rev. Moses Dissinger of the Evangelical Association,” in Methodist History 53:1 (October 2014), 40-61; “Social Justice: Liberating a Biblical Mandate from Political Captivity,” in Evangelical Journal 30:1 (Spring 2012), 22-39; “To Your Tents, O Israel!” The Life of Rev. Andrew Manship, Evangelist and Entrepreneur. Arcadia Enterprises, 2009; “That Dear Man of God: Edward Evans and the Origins of American Methodism,” in Methodist History 47:1 (October 2008), 26-47; “A Hot Bed of Secession.” New Hope and the Civil War. Bedminster, PA:

Adams Apple Press, 2001; My Business Was to Fight the Devil: Recollections of Adam Wallace, Peninsula Circuit Rider, 1847-1865. Acton, MA: Tapestry Press, 1998.

Other Information: Spouse: Susan. Since my appointment to First UMC Lancaster in 2015, we have launched a ministry which currently serves free breakfasts to 150 persons per day and led a capital campaign to relieve \$2 million in debt.

Statement: *The United Methodist Church is in crisis, deeply divided and uncertain of its future. As a participant in the 2019 General Conference, I do not wish to see another painful session like that one in 2020. We must find an alternative “way forward” which allows a win/win solution for all parties, and allow people enough secure space to pursue their ministries in accordance with the dictates of conscience. And we must put our focus back on making disciples for Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.*



Rev. Johnson Dodla

Church: Coatesville: Olivet UMC

Career: Pastor

Ministries:

• Connectional:

Healing the Wounds of Racism, Camp and Retreat Ministries, Board of Ordained Ministry Co-Chair.

- **Ecumenical Ministries:** Exton-Lionville Ministerium, Coatesville Area Pastors Network

Statement: *Our family is quite diverse. I am Indian, married to Christyn, who is Caucasian. We have four kids ranging from 4-11 years old. Our older two children joined our family through adoption. They are African American. We also have two biological children who are biracial. When our family breaks bread together at a restaurant, most bystanders give us a puzzled look, a look that is begging the question, “Are all of you together?” Irrespective of the diversity, we are family. Our kids fight like any other siblings. They love and show compassion when another is hurting. One Sunday, during my sermon, I said: “My kids are obnoxious at church because they are so well loved by everyone in the pews.” They feel secure when they are within the walls of Olivet UMC.*

2020 General Conference is going to

impact how my kids will experience the only church they have ever known. I believe that there is a way forward for our church to move past our current impasse. We can be a church where there is theological diversity, where everyone is welcome to break bread at the Lord's Table. I believe that we can be the church where the world around us is going to look at us and ask the question "Are all of you together?" My prayer is that we the family, called the United Methodist can shout a resounding YES!



Rev. Christopher L. Fisher

Church: Schuylkill Haven: First UMC

Career: Pastor; Director of UM Studies, Evangelical

Theological Seminary, Myerstown, PA; Adjunct Prof., United Theological Seminary, Dayton, OH, and Asbury Theological Seminary, Wilmore, KY;

Ministries:

- **Connectional--Current:** NW District Committee on Ordained Ministry. **Past:** Counsel for the Church, EPA Conference; Latino Ministries Spanish Theological Training Initiative; Evangelical Connection; NW District Superintendent's Support Team; Conference Communications Team, Conference Computer Task Force.
- **Ecumenical:** Treasurer, Schuylkill Haven Council of Churches; Chaplain, Boy Scout Troop 625, Schuylkill Haven.

Publications: *Human Significance in Theology and the Natural Sciences* (Pickwick, 2010). "Some Theological Issues in the Church's Contemporary Discussion on Homosexuality," *Evangelical Journal* 30:1 (Spring, 2012). "Apes, Humans, and X-Men: Human Uniqueness and the Meaning of Personhood," *Theology and Science* 3:3 (2005).

Other Information: PhD, University of Edinburgh (2004). Spouse: Elizabeth Fisher, LMFT.

Statement: *I was raised in the UM Church and made a commitment to Christ as a child. I lost my faith during college, where I was strongly influenced by the secular worldview and stopped believing in the Bible. While traveling after college,*

I recommitted my life to Christ, surrendering to him on his own terms, including putting faith in his Word. I came alive to God after this, becoming aware of the power of God to save, transform and heal, and answering a call to ministry. Since then, I have extensively researched apologetics, science and theology questions, and the defense of biblical Christian faith in a secular age, completing doctoral studies in those areas.

I believe in the Nicene Creed where it says the church is "apostolic," and I interpret this to mean the church is built on the teaching of the Apostles. The Lord Jesus entrusted his word to them, and by the power of the Holy Spirit they have passed it on accurately. I believe transformative discipleship is at the heart of the church's mission. Jesus' disciples are empowered by him to escape the corruption that is in the world due to the hardening of hearts in sin (of which I am personally familiar) and are called to be conformed to Christ's image in ever-increasing personal and social holiness (which I am working on).

My convictions are orthodox and evangelical in the classic Wesleyan sense, with some charismatic and messianic Jewish influences. If elected to General Conference, I would favor legislation which helps the church live into its mission of transformative disciple-making. I would also support a gracious exit path for those who cannot live with the current direction and growth trends of the denomination.



Rev. Monica B. Guepet

Church: West Grove UMC

Career: Pastor. Former Director/Pastor of Christian Education.

Ministries:

- **Connectional:** Chair, South District Committee on Ministry; Board of Ordained Ministry; Annual Conference Co-Coordinator of Worship; Christian Educators Fellowship; Children's Ministries Team; Commission on Conference Sessions; Annual Conference Head Teller; Women in Professional Ministry; MAUMF Financial Leadership Academy
- **Ecumenical:** Drexel University Wesley Foundation; Avon Grove Ministerium; Constellation

Network (community organizing); Southern Chester County Opportunity Network (poverty alleviation and advocacy).

Publications: Schreyer's Honors Thesis: "The Similarities in Roman Catholic and Evangelical Lutheran liturgy since the liturgical movements of the 1960s," 2003. Master's Thesis: "Full Table: Kingdom of God", 2011

Other Information: Spouse: Stephen Guepet. I was an Observer & Monitor at 2012 and 2019 General Conferences. I love dance, from liturgical dance to performing the Nutcracker, to goofing off in the kitchen with my family!

Statement: *The gospel calls us to live out a call to love God and our neighbor as ourselves. Our global connection vivifies hope, faith and love, while we seek to remove harm from the insidious places where it has gotten stuck. I give thanks to God for the places where love, faith, and hope have poked up like persistent flowers in the cracks of the sidewalk of the church. We are called as the body of Christ to care well for one another in our shared love for God. The 2020 General Conference provides a resilient opportunity for creative leadership for those willing to prayerfully discern the movement of the Holy Spirit. Reflective, adaptive, contextual leadership is needed for these changing times. If elected, it would be my honor to serve faithfully.*



Rev. Robin M. Hynicka

Church: Arch Street UMC, Philadelphia

Career: Pastor

Ministries

• **Connectional:** UM Metro

Ministries; Urban Commission; Methodist Federation for Social Action; National MFSA Program Council; Reconciling UMs of Eastern PA; Delegate to 2012 General Conference and 2016 NE Jurisdictional Conference; Convener of the Whites Confronting Racism Training, in partnership with the Conference Commission on Religion and Race, the Board of Ordained Ministry and the Office of Connectional Ministries

• **Ecumenical:** Founding Member of POWER (Philadelphians Organized to Witness Empower and

Rebuild), an interfaith network of communities of faith and conscience in Philadelphia and beyond that advocates for sacred and social justice.

Other Information: Member of the Board of Trustees of Albright College. Co-Convener of The Center – Philadelphia (a non-profit committed to social justice and civic engagement). President of Center City Organized for Responsible Development. Honorary Doctorate from Albright College.

Statement: *John Wesley's Holy Club members asked themselves 22 different questions. While all of them require serious consideration, there are three that stand out for me.*

1. "Is Christ real to me?" My faith journey began as a child in the Sunday School of St. Paul's Evangelical United Brethren Church in Mountville, PA. Miss Reese made me memorize the Books of the Bible and Miss Hartman taught me to sing "Jesus Loves Me." That small-town congregation embraced me as I knelt at the altar and in a tearful prayer asked Jesus to love me. That love is real today, and those seemingly simple assignments and songs remain at the core of my faith.

2. "Do I insist upon doing something about which my conscience is uneasy?" I am committed to a fully inclusive church that puts racial justice, LGBTQ justice, gender justice, economic justice, environmental justice at the center of our walk with Jesus. I pray for, preach and promote wholeheartedly: the full inclusion of LGBTQ persons in the life of the church; the restructuring of economies that perpetuate poverty; and the dismantling of racism by addressing white privilege—my own and that embedded in the ecclesiastical, social and political systems of society.

3. "Did the Bible live in me today?" Preaching at Grace Café, a weekly time of worship and food fellowship with persons experiencing homelessness and hunger, is such an ominous task. I add wrinkles to my brow thinking of ways to connect with the 200 or so souls who gather in the sanctuary on Sundays at 5:30 PM. I have learned that if, before I speak, I walk up and down the aisles of the sanctuary and shake hands, fist-bump or flash the peace sign to each person gathered, what I say later in the sermon becomes a living word. It is less about what is said and totally about what is done to be in the presence of the people.



Rev. Dan Lebo

Church: Annville UMC

Career: Pastor; Director of Innabah Camp and Retreat Center; Chaplain/

Coordinator of Spiritual Life, Lebanon Valley College.

Ministries:

- **Connectional:** Global Justice Volunteer, General Board of Global Ministries; Young Adult Clergy Leadership Forum, General Board of Church and Society; Conference Board of Camping and Retreat Ministries, ex-officio; Northwest & West district committees on Ordained Ministry; Board of Ordained Ministry.

- **Ecumenical Ministries:** Evangelicals for Social Action; Somerton Ministerium; Somerton Food Bank; Annville-Cleona Council of Churches; Interfaith Dialogue Panelist at Lebanon Valley College; Lebanon Rescue Mission.

Publications: Book Talk with Paul Chilcote and Laycey Warner. *Witness: Journal of the Academy for Evangelism in Theological Education*, 24, 81-92.

Other Information: Ph.D. candidate in Organizational Leadership, Alvernia University. Prepare-Enrich Certified Facilitator. Spouse: Becca Lebo.

Statement: *As a husband, father, pastor, chaplain, and graduate student, I have learned a lot about the importance of listening. When we don't listen we can't communicate well. We argue, we misinterpret, we fail to build relationships, and ultimately we fail to realize the kingdom and community that God is building in our midst. As I watched the live feed of the most recent General Conference I was distraught by many things I witnessed. Perhaps none struck deeper than what I interpreted as a failure in our process to listen. I watched as voices begged to be noticed, begged to be heard, begged to be listened to; but we, as a denomination, closed our ears.*

Our church is better when all voices are heard and, more importantly, listened to. The United Methodist Church is a diverse body with many voices that deserve to be represented. My desire to be a delegate for General Conference comes from my belief

that one of the voices that is underrepresented at the table is the voice of young adults in our connection. At the 2019 special session of General Conference, less than 7% of delegates could be categorized as young adults. I believe greater representation of this population is important because we are part of the leadership of the church now and will be for many years to come. I, as well as many other young adults, understand that the decisions that are made on the extremely important issues discussed at General Conference will have a lasting impact on the future of our denomination.

Every year when I fill out my charge conference forms I smile as I fill in my projected retirement date for 2050, because it seems so far away. In reality, it is not as far as we think. The decisions that are made in 2020 will still be felt in 2050 and beyond, which is why young adult representation is so crucial. God willing I would be honored to serve our conference in this capacity.



Rev. Mandy S. Miller

Church: Reading; Holy Cross

Career: Pastor. Former Associate Pastor (Tokyo Union Church,

Tokyo, Japan).

Ministries:

- **Connectional:** Previous Co-Chair Women in Professional Ministry
- **Ecumenical:** Previous On-Site Coordinator Wesleyan/Holiness Women Clergy Conference

Other Information: Graduate of the MAUMF Financial Leadership Academy. President of Owatin Creek Elementary Association of Parents and Teachers

Statement: *The God I worship and serve is a God of inclusion, a God who welcomes all to experience amazing love and grace. The message I read in the Bible and see in the life of Jesus Christ is one who loves all people—especially those whom others attempt to shame or exclude. Galatians 3:28— "There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus"—is among the first Bible verses I memorized. I value the biblical lessons of equality I learned as a child and these teachings serve me well as I continue in ministry today. We each bring unique gifts and graces into the church as*

we strive to serve the living God. My first pastorate in Tokyo demonstrated how people from all over the globe could worship and serve God amid a whole variety of differences. Everyone was welcome. Our strength in ministry came from our ability to work together and to value each person. This is what we are called to do as the church—to make space for all to use their gifts and to allow God’s love to flow freely. The Holy Spirit empowers me to lead people to Christ and to preach and teach God’s inclusive love for all.



Rev. Lydia E. Muñoz

Church: Kennett Square: Church of the Open Door

Career: Pastor; Director,

Escuela Teologica Evangelica—Latino Commission; Multi-systemic Therapist; Conference Coordinator of Young People’s Ministries; MH/MR Therapist.

Ministries:

- **Connectional:** Board Co-Chair of National Methodist Federation for Social Action, MFSA EPAC Chapter Co-Convener; MARCHA NEJ, President; Latino Commission; Urban Commission, EPAC (Immigration) Rapid Response Team, Current Co-Chair, National Plan for Hispanic/Latino Ministries, Reconciling Ministries Network; Cross-Racial/Cross Cultural Central District Committee, Ethnic-Local Church consultant; Central District Committee on Nominations, UM Hymnal Review Committee, GCORR Facing the Future Design Team.
- **Ecumenical Ministries:** Heeding God’s Call; Emergent Village Cohort, Worship leader/Design team for World Council of Churches Global Gathering 2013 in South Korea, New Sanctuary Movement of Philadelphia, Puertas Abiertas Immigrant Counselling Services, La Comunidad Hispana, POWER Metro

Publications: *My Peace*. WCC2013 Song Book, *Make us One*. NEJ Clergy Women’s Gathering Song Book, *Gracias Amigo* (Mark Miller & Lydia Munoz). (soon to be published by Choristers Guild). lentforeveryone.blog, Abingdon

Press Preachers Manual

Other Information: Spouse: Rev. James F. McIntire.

Statement: *I believe the Church of Jesus Christ is at its best when it embraces all of its diversity and differences as its core value. When we embrace the fact that we do not have to be the same in order to be together then we are truly being the body of Christ and a witness of God’s reign on earth. In all of creation, God’s creative energy can be seen in the variety of colors, shapes, languages, imagination and our ability to love more than our ability to hate. Ephesians 2:10 says, “For we are what God has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life.” (NRSV). The most powerful witness that we can give the world is to see how we love each other in the midst of deep disagreement. I believe we lost that opportunity in this last special session of General Conference, but I have not lost hope. Like Paul, “we are pressed on all sides, but not crushed; perplexed but not in despair.” (2 Cor. 4:8) I believe God is still in control and the Holy Spirit is in the midst of great transformation.*

In a world polarized and divided, in a country that struggles to come to terms with the fact that by 2044 demographics show that we will be a majority minority country, we need the witness of Church. We need a witness of how an institution can divest itself from its racist practices and past and commit to being a church that truly embraces its work in eliminating racism in all its forms understanding that racism it is incompatible to the teachings of Jesus Christ, and sees this as its most important goal.

This is not easy. We can only do this work together. It is work that involves a deep commitment from each of us to love each other beyond the labels that we often place on one another of “conservative” or “progressive.” So that we can embrace our shared mission and vision. I dream and work for a church where everyone is welcome and where are “good works” are seen as a clear sign of people who have captured the message of Jesus Christ and are committed to live into it. I believe we can do it and as Wesley reminds us, “the best of all is, God is with us!”



Rev. Coleen Brandt Painter

Church: Elverston UMC

Career: Pastor. Chaplain: US Army Reserve

(Captain); ManorCare Health Services; Norristown State Hospital and Southeastern Veterans Center (PA Council of Churches contract); Pottstown VNA Hospice. Executive Director: On Track Behavioral Health Services.

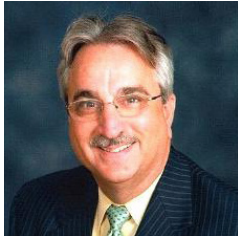
Ministries:

- **Connectional—Current:** Board of Pensions and Health Benefits (president); Commission on Archives and History; Volunteer counselor at conference camps.
- Past:** Board of Ordained Ministry; Associate Conference Secretary; Council on Finance and Administration; Metro-Ministries (secretary), Committee on Investigation; Wesley Foundation at Drexel University; Board of Global Ministries (NE District Mission Secretary).
- **Ecumenical:** See Chaplain appointments.

Other Information: Elected member of the Board of Auditors, Limerick Township, Montgomery County. Spouse: Mark S. Painter, Sr. Advocate for better services for people with disabilities; and former leader of a 4-H Club for children with autism. Developed and implemented a confirmation curriculum for non-verbal children with autism at Spring City UMC. Co-author and shepherd of the resolution on “Abusive Treatment Methods for Persons with Mental Disabilities” which first appeared in the UM Book of Resolutions in 1996.

Statement: *Although I have lived my adult life in Eastern Pennsylvania, I grew up in the Yellowstone Conference and I completely understand the Western Jurisdiction’s adverse reaction to the decisions of the 2019 General Conference. GC2020 needs to revisit those decisions in favor of a solution that respects regional and cultural differences on the issues for which we do not have consensus. Whatever happens, the devil will be in the details, especially the finances, and General Conference will need members who can understand the broad implications of financial details.*

This is one of the skills that I can offer the EPC delegation.



Rev. Jeffrey Alan Raffauf

Church: West Lawn UMC, Reading

Career: Lead Pastor

Ministries:

- **Connectional--Current:** Board of Trustees, Cornwall Manor. **Past:** Delegate and Alternate to General & Jurisdictional conferences; District Council on Ministries; Conference Education Society; Camping Board; Council on Finance & Administration; Central District Connectional Ministries Fund Team Congregational Transformation Team; Board of Ordained Ministry; District Committee on Church Building & Location; Jeremiah 29 Teams.
- **Ecumenical Ministries:** Associate Chaplain, Reading Hospital; Northern Lebanon County ministerial associations; Jonestown Council of Churches; Columbia, Wilson Area, and Reading-Berks Conference of Churches; Berks County Jail prison ministry.

Publications: "Growing the Local Church through Worship: One Model for Reaching New People, Younger People, and More Diverse People" (Doctor of Ministry Project Thesis, Wesley Theological Seminary, 2013)

Other Information: D.Min degree in Church Leadership, Wesley Theological Seminary.

Statement: *It has been an honor and privilege to live out my calling in a small, a mid-sized, and now a larger congregation. I believe the breadth of my experiences gives me a rich pool from which to draw when discerning and making decisions in my local church, as a voting member in full connection in our Annual Conference, and, if so honored, at the Jurisdictional and General Church levels. Having recently served at the last two General Conferences, I believe it could be beneficial to have such experience on the next General/Jurisdictional Conference delegation. If elected, I would hope to serve the whole Church with fairness, compassion, and a hopeful eye for future ministry in The*

United Methodist Church.



Rev. Shauna K. Ridge

Church: Thorn-dale UMC

Career: Pastor. Formerly: Intern at Crossroads Hospice, Plymouth Meeting; Director of Lay Ministries at Hopewell UMC.

Ministries

Connectional: Co-Chair, COSROW; Co-Chair, Women in Professional Ministry; Downingtown-Coatesville Mission Cluster; SOULanco Mission Cluster; Former Equalizing Lay Delegate to Annual Conference.

Ecumenical: Downingtown Area Ministerium; Solanco (South Lancaster County) Ministerium; Board Member, Solanco Neighborhood Ministries.

Other Information: Spouse: Jamie Ridge.

Statement: It is a privilege to be considered to serve as a delegate to this historic General Conference. As one who did not grow up in a family of faith, and having been raised by parents who were deeply wounded by the church, I will bring a unique perspective to this delegation. I came to faith later in life through two vital congregations. They taught me how God's grace is available to me and to all. They shared their love for Jesus and his love for me and for all. They showed me the power of the Holy Spirit when we, as his disciples, do good work and when we work together for the good of all. I love the local church, and I believe that we are the hope that this hurting world so desperately needs. There is surely much at stake for the future of our denomination in 2020. This is the perspective with which I will serve if elected.



Rev. Dawn Taylor-Storm
South District, Eastern PA Conference

Career: District Superintendent; Dean of the Cabinet; Pastor; Associate Pastoral Intern.

Ministries:

- **Connectional:** GCFA Economic Advisory Committee; Jurisdictional & Conference Episcopacy

committees; Congo Partnership; Urban Commission; Board of Ordained Ministry; Conference Relations Committee; District Teams

- **Ecumenical:** Collaborative partnerships with the AME Church and Palmer Seminary; Interfaith Mainline Ministerium; Methodists United in Mission (AME/CME/UMC)

Other Information: I led a joint delegation from the Eastern PA & Pen-Del conferences to the Democratic Republic of Congo, and also led a fund development project to build the first pediatric medical & eye clinic in Mpasa, Congo. Spouse: Dan Taylor-Storm,

Statement: *"Resurrection happens on the third day not because the people voted for it. Resurrection happened on the third day because the movement of God could not be legislated. You see, God does not depend on a majority vote...." (Spoken during debate at GC2020.) Since General Conference 2019, I have seen resurrection. I have watched thousands of young people engage the church and claim it as their own, refusing to walk away, but instead committing their lives even more to the proclamation of the Gospel. I have witnessed churches renewing their commitments to be places of radical hospitality. I have seen people finding their voice and speaking, even if their voices shake. I believe God is doing a new thing through the United Methodist movement. I am committed to a United Methodist movement where all people are invited to the table and are fully welcome in all ministries of the church. I take this work seriously and am presently working collaboratively across the United Methodist connection to discern a future that seeks abundant life for all. If elected, you have my full commitment to engage the work of the General Conference in the same way I engage the work of the church - with my prayers, presence, gifts, service and witness.*



Rev. Joan H Trout

Church: Willow Street: Boehm's UMC & Historic Boehm's Chapel

Career: Pastor

Ministries:

• **Connectional:** Chair,

Southeast District Committee on Ordained Ministry; Board of Ordained Ministry; Southwest District Committee on Superintendency; Rawlinsville Camp Meeting.

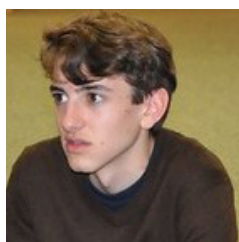
• **Ecumenical:** Conestoga Pastor's Group; Lionville-Exton Ministerium; Willow Street Ministerium.

Other Information: Spouse: Barry L Trout

Statement: *Even after a much-anticipated Special General Conference in February, Our UMC is still in a state of deep division. While a vote was taken and a plan was approved by a small majority—along with possible voting irregularities and parts of the approved Traditional plan declared unconstitutional—many who voted for the One Church Plan insist, as a matter of conscience, that they will minister as though that plan was approved. It is readily apparent that we still have much to do to find a way forward that can lead to ways for all to minister according to their understandings of Scripture, human sexuality and their conscience.*

I am willing to pray and work with all people with varying views on these matters to discern how God can lead us away from the hurt and pain and toward a new Methodist future that provides a way forward for all United Methodists to worship, share and serve Jesus Christ in ways consistent with their understanding of Scripture, God's will and our human condition, every person created in the image of God, yet sinful and needing the redemption, forgiveness and freedom that Jesus Christ brings to us by his great love, his mercy, grace and forgiveness.

Lay Delegate Nominees



Matthew Calderone

Church: Emilie UMC, Levittown

Employment: College Student

Ministries--Connectional:

EPAC Board of Laity; Conference Council on Young Adult Ministries. Formerly on the Conference Council on Youth Ministries.

Other Information: Student of the Month Levittown Rotary Club November 2017, Student of the Month Bucks County Technical High School November 2017

Statement: *I believe that young adult representation is crucial to the future of The United Methodist Church as a whole, and I will stand to represent them to the best of my ability. I will attend meetings as scheduled and aid in the movement of having young voices heard.*



Judith K. Ehninger

Church: Asbury UMC, Allentown

Employment: Retired Registered Nurse Educator (52 years); Profes-

sor Emeritus, Allied Health Education, Lehigh Carbon Community College

Ministries

• **Connectional:** Local church: Certified Lay Minister, Lay Member to Annual Conference, Staff-Parish Relations Committee; Leadership Development Committee; Prayer Ministry Leader; Christian Education Third Grade teacher; Disciple Bible Study Leader; Lay Pastoral Care Visitor. District: Northeast District Christ Servant Ministry Director, Member, Northeast District Transformation Team and Nominations Committee, 1996-2005. District Lay Leader, Northeast District. Annual Conference: Academy for Laity annual presenter (Christ Servant Ministry Basic Program). Coordinator of the Certified Lay Minister Program; North District Committee on Ordained Ministry. Jurisdictional: Northeastern Jurisdiction Episcopacy Committee, 2004-2012, 2016 to present. Delegate to 2000, 2004, 2008, 2012 Jurisdictional

Conferences. Delegate to 2012 and 2016 General Conferences. Chair, Host Site Committee of the 2016 NEJ Conference.

• **Ecumenical:** Member Lehigh County Conference of Churches; Day-break Angel Volunteer; Meals on Wheels delivery volunteer.

Publications: Authored Professional Allied Health publications and curriculum.

Other Information: Spouse: Charles Ehninger for 50 years. Joined the Methodist Church in 1964 as a student nurse. Received Denman Evangelism Award, 1991. Have a passion for small groups, Wesleyan and classical church history, lay ministry development, and all aspects of prayer ministry.

Statement: *What the church preaches and teaches publicly defines what we believe and who we are to all. Moreover, what we do, our actions, as a church define who we believe Jesus Christ to be. We must strive to live the Gospel in our communities as a witness to the continuity and consistency of our faith. Decisions facing the 2020 General Conference must provide the context for church renewal and expansion, sharing the Good News the world over. We must seek God's vision for our future structure and His guidance as we seek to make disciples in this 21st century.*



Ann Jacob

Church: Lima UMC

Employment: Preparing for law school

Ministries:

• **Connectional:**

General Church: Discipleship Ministries Board Member, 2012–Present. General Conference 2016 Reserve Delegate. GC2008 Youth Representative. Division on Ministries with Young People Co-Chair, 2012–2016. UMC Global Young People's Convocation and Legislative Assembly— Youth Representative 2006 in South Africa; Youth Delegate 2010 in Germany; Co-Chair 2014 in Philippines; Church & Society Global Social Principles Consultation, 2014 in Czech Republic.

Jurisdiction: NEJ Conference Lay Delegate, 2012 and 2016. Mission of Peace, 2010. Leadership Table Chair, 2008–2010. Vision Table, 2008–2010.

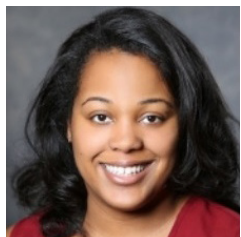
Annual Conference: Conference Council on Youth Ministries

President, 2006–2010. Lay Equalizing Delegate to Annual Conference. EPA-Congo Partnership Team, February 2018. Trained as VIM Team Leader, March 2018.

- **Ecumenical:** World Methodist Council Lay Representative, 2018, South Korea. UMC Council of Bishops Young Adult Ecumenical Immersion, 2017. World Student Christian Federation – North America Co-Chair, 2014–2016.

Other Information: B.A. in International Relations and Political Science, 2014. M. Div., 2018. Intern at General Board of Church and Society in Washington D.C. (2012) and in New York (2015–2016).

Statement: *We are at a significant moment in the life of our denomination, and I believe that the 2020 General Conference will have the opportunity to make decisions that affect the future of The United Methodist Church. At General Conference 2019 only 7% of the voting delegates were under 35 years of age. As a young adult, under 30 years old, and a person of color, I am interested in becoming a General Conference delegate and serving on the EPAC delegation for several reasons. First, I am a faithful Christian. Second, I am passionate about The United Methodist Church. My faith compels me to be active in the life of the church. The 2020 GC will provide us the space to worship with fellow United Methodists from around the world, to consider petitions to the Book of Discipline and Book of Resolutions, and to discern the future of our denomination. As a young person who will be affected by the decisions of the 2020 General Conference, I want a seat at the table, as I know my voice as a young person will add to the conversation and deliberations. Third, I am qualified. I have attended two General Conferences, served on a general agency for two quadrennia, served as a delegate to Jurisdictional Conference twice, and know the rules and procedures of the conference. I truly believe that my experiences representing EPAC in various roles have prepared me adequately to serve as a General Conference delegate. If elected, I will serve with gratitude and diligently fulfill all of my responsibilities.*



Krystl D. Johnson

Church: St. Daniel's UMC, Chester

Employment: Executive Director, Delaware County Pregnancy Center

Ministries

- **Connectional:** South District Dinner Discussions (Group Chair); St. Daniel's Youth Ministry Coordinator; St. Daniel's Church/Charge Council Chair; Conference Communications Team; Council on Young Adult Ministries; General Board of Higher Education Ministry (Audit & Review Committee Chair); NEJ Black Methodists for Church Renewal (Young People's Ministries Coordinator); Philadelphia Black Methodist for Church Renewal Caucus (Vice Coordinator); Ray of Hope Community Development Corporation Board of Directors

Publications: 2018 (Thesis) Adopted Adolescents Adjusting to Forever Families: A Social Skills Group for Adopted Teens.

Other Information: B.A. in English; M.S. in Counseling Received 2 awards from St. Daniel's UMW: the Outreach Award and the Women of Faith through Commitment and Service Award. Trained in serving individuals living with HIV. She has a passion for connecting the Word of God to the lives of young people. Most known for using her Christian and city upbringing to weave compelling stories and real-time application into her messages, Krystl is one of the boldest and most creative speakers in the Delaware Valley. She has a masterful grasp of academic and Biblical content. She is able to develop and implement programs with a real eye on what young people and leaders of young people need in their own educational or small group settings. She works hard to make sure her programs hold spiritual experiences and substantive Biblical scholarship at the forefront.

Statement: *As someone personally invested in building relationships between Christ and His church, Ms. Krystl D. Johnson believes that she is the ideal delegate candidate for both the General and Jurisdictional Conferences. In 2016 and again in 2019, Ms. Johnson took her role as delegate seriously and sought to uphold Christ's mission in the world. She believes she is a reflection of Young People in Eastern*

Pennsylvania. Her peers would attest: "In all things, she seeks to engage, encourage, and energize young Christians." Ms. Johnson promises this: "Guided by scripture and the Holy Spirit, I will keep in mind God's will for His Church as I make bold decisions about church policies and tough issues."



David Koch

Church: Grove UMC

Employment: Retired Human Resources Director

Ministries

- **Connectional:** Conference Lay Leader, Conference Board of Pension & Health Benefits, Association of Annual Conference Lay Leaders, Conference Nominations Committee, Conference Human Resources Committee, Conference Sessions Committee, Board of Lay Ministry, Board of Ordained Ministry, EPAC Historical Society.

- **Ecumenical:** Human Resources Committee of Good Works, Inc., Coatesville Women and Youth Association Volunteer

Other Information: Led adult Sunday School class and Lenten Bible Study.

Statement: *I think The United Methodist Church is finally at a tipping point on the issue of homosexuality. The 2019 General Conference may have decided what language is used in the Book of Discipline, but it did not decide what individual members and churches will do going forward, as evidenced by reactions to the results of the conference. It did, however raise the consciousness of a greater number of members and brought the issue to the forefront of their thinking. The church needs to come to some broader agreement on the issue so that we can focus on our main task – making disciples. I would like to be a part of that effort and represent the Eastern Pennsylvania Conference at the 2020 General Conference. Only a handful of people have ever asked me directly where I stand on the issue of ordination of gay/lesbian persons and same sex marriage, so I will share that here. I would like to see the Book of Discipline changed to allow for full participation by our gay/lesbian brothers and sisters. However, until the Book of Discipline is changed I feel an obligation as your Conference Lay Leader to honor the existing language. I understand that*

people of good faith read the scriptures differently and I respect different views, but when I apply the concepts of tradition, experience and reason to the scripture I think we need greater inclusion. This is not the issue on which we should be focused. I want to see the church focus on making disciples.



Clarita Anderson Krall

Church: First UMC of Germantown, aka FUMCOG

Employment: Retired

Ministries

- **Connectional:** 2016 delegate to General and NEJ Conferences (and GC2019). Conference Communications Ministry Team (2012-2017). District Resource Assistant (1992-2017). Conference Board of Ordained Ministry (Secretary, 2008-2012). East District Committee on Ordained Ministry (1999-2015, Secretary).

Other Information: B.A., Sociology/Anthropology. Spouse: Rev. Stanley J. Krall since 1970. Clergy spouse at 4 churches, 1976-2012. At FUMCOG: Chancel Choir; Coordinator of Senior Friends, etc..

Statement: As a 21st-century, North American Christian, I believe that God is alive and interactive with the whole of creation through the Holy Spirit. It is important to me to remain prayerfully open to new understandings that God is revealing through the Comforter, the Counselor, the Divine, the Helper, the Friend, the Companion, the HOLY SPIRIT – the one Jesus promised would come once he went away (John 16:7). There is much we do not know now; there is much yet to learn.

I pray that we United Methodists can remain open to the visions and experiences that God continues to communicate. Even the apostles remained open to God's leading, through the Holy Spirit, as they entered into their ministries after Jesus was taken up into heaven. "My commandment is this: love one another, just as I love you." (John 15:12). This directive from Jesus sums up my faith. It is so simple to understand! It is not difficult to teach! And our Church, our families, our neighborhoods, indeed, our world would be God's kingdom come if we could get to a place of comprehending and abiding by it. I was born into, raised,

nurtured, and matured in my faith in this domain of Christendom, now called The United Methodist Church. Having grown up in a parsonage and then having had the experience of being a clergy spouse, I feel as if I have always been in ministry to all whom I meet. As a former District Resource Assistant, it has been my privilege to minister to both clergy and laity in my daily labors. I look forward to following God's leading should I be elected to represent the Eastern Pennsylvania Conference at the 2020 General Conference.



Lawrence Lee

Church: Mother African Zoar UMC in Philadelphia

Employment: Comptroller, Eastern PA Conference UMC

Ministries

- **Connectional:** Board Member of Metro Ministries; Past Coordinator and current Secretary of Philadelphia Black Methodists for Church Renewal (BMCR). Previously, Lay Delegate to Annual Conference; Member of Conference Council on Finance and Administration (CCFA); Committee on Equitable Compensation; Conference Loan Fund Board; Chair of Central District Recourse Advisory Team; Co-Facilitator of the Philadelphia Area Mission Cluster.

Other Information: I am a fourth-generation Methodist and a lifelong member of Zoar UMC. I served as Lay Leader (2003-2008), Financial Secretary (2008-2012), Finance Chair (2012-2016) and Treasurer (2016-2018). Chief Petty Officer in the US Coast Guard Reserve. Received the CG Achievement Medal, among other military awards.

Statement: When men and women of good conscience come together in a spirit of love, fellowship and unity, focused on God alone, then miracles can happen. If honored to be elected as your GC Lay Delegate, I vow to be led by the Holy Spirit in all that I do, discuss, and decide around the future of our beloved denomination. Many are the challenges that our church faces, but Greater is the God that we serve.



Susan Grimm Mattox

Church: Ross Street UMC, Lancaster

Employment: Retired former

Educator, Middle-School Librarian, Reading Specialist. Pulpit supply pastor.

Ministries

- **Connectional:** West District Lay Leader; West District Committee on Ministry; West District Superintendency Committee; West District Resource Committee; EPAC Mission Committee; EPAC Board of Laity; Lancaster City Urban Church Cluster; Lancaster Urban Ministry, MANIFEST; LUMINA volunteer; United Methodist Women Vice President and Christ Servant Minister at Ross Street UMC.

- **Ecumenical:** Lancaster North-east Ministerial Group.

Other Information: Anchorage Breakfast Ministry at First UMC Lancaster Board of Directors; President of Lancaster-Lebanon PSEA, Retired, 2018-2020; President of Lancaster Optimist Club, 2018-19 and Optimist of the Year (2018).

Statement: At this gathering of the 2020 General Conference I hope faith members from across the world will hold open dialogues that will help to move our faith to further God's kingdom. I pray that the 2020 General Conference will be led by the HOLY SPIRIT. With active listening, study and fellowship, I hope we will be moving towards the unity that our United Methodist brothers and sisters desperately need. I hope that I can be a prayerful partner in this gathering.



Lenora Thompson

Church: Wharton-Wesley UMC

Employment: Self Employed: President, The Thompson Group (29 years)

Ministries

- **Connectional:** Conference Lay Leader, 1998-2006. Delegate to General and or Jurisdictional conferences since 1992. Chairperson, EPAC Scholarship Program and Connectional Table. Past board member of: EPAC Loan Fund,

General Council of Finance & Administration, General Board of Higher Education and Ministry, and Africa University. Former Vice-Coordinator of Philadelphia BMCR (Black Methodists for Church Renewal).

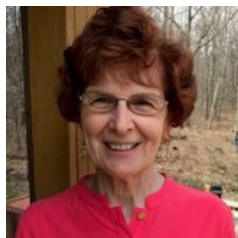
- **Ecumenical Ministries:** Past Delegate to the World Methodist Council, 1991 and 2006.

Publications: Contributing Author, "Making the Connection: Economic Development, Workforce Development and Urban Poverty." Co-author, "Organizing Community Groups."

Other Information: PECO Energy Service Leadership Award (Senior Management Recognition). Philadelphia Clef Club of Performing Arts Service Award. Current Judge of Elections for the 4th Ward, 21st Division (Philadelphia). Chairperson of Local Church SPRC. Founder and Organizer of The Boys' Book Club.

Statement: *Having just served as the first lay alternate delegate to the 2019 Special Session of General Conference, I am aware of and understand the issues and concerns facing our denomination.*

Our issues are many, but as Christians we must learn to truly believe in our Baptism. We must accept that we must be one in the spirit. We must lead in a manner that is not like the secular world. It is our responsibility to find a way to look at all the issues that marginalize all God's people.



Ann Tinner

C h u r c h :

Pocono Lake UMC

Employment:

Retired Elementary School

Teacher from the Hanover Area

School District. Christ Servant Minister and a Certified Lay Minister for two years.

Ministries

- **Connectional:** Served on 3 District Superintendency committees. Trained to work on a Transformation Team with my husband in several churches in the Conference. Lay Leader for several years.

- **Ecumenical:** Ecumenical

Council, Pocono Lake area. Personal shopper for Ecumenical Food Pantry at the Five Loaf House in the Pocono Area.

Other Information: As President of the Keystone State Literacy Association of Luzerne County, I have initiated the Laundromat Library League in laundromats in Luzerne and Monroe Counties, providing boxes of books for children, from toddlers to teens. I am Secretary of the Indian Lake Homeowners Association and Past President of Delta Kappa Gamma Society. I now work on its Scholarship Committee.

Statement: *I would attend the General Conference as a well-informed delegate. We should work together as a democratic assembly that can join together as Christians to listen to differing viewpoints with love and compassion. We should all pray for God's guidance to discern His will before we initiate our decisions. We should strive to love our neighbor and remember our commission to make disciples for Jesus Christ.*