

A Service of Recognition, Commissioning and Ordination

Wisconsin Annual Conference, The United Methodist Church October 12, 2020 You are called to tell the story, passing words of life along, then to blend your voice with others, as you sing the sacred song. Christ be known in all our singing, filling all with songs of love.

You are called to teach the rhythm of the dance that never ends, then to move within the circle, hand in hand with strangers, friends. Christ be known in all our dancing, touching all with hands of love.

You are called to set the table, blessing bread as Jesus blessed, then to come with thirst and hunger, needing care like all the rest, Christ be known in all our sharing, feeding all with signs of love.

May the One whose love is broader than the measure of all space give us words to sing the story, move among us in this place. Christ be known in all our living, filling all with gifts of love.

Arranged, performed and recorded by The Rev. Jeremy Deaner Piano and Organ recordings by Mary Jensen Words by Ruth C. Duck

© 1992, GIA Publications, Inc. Used by permission, OneLicense.net # A-721022. Music: REGENT SQUARE – Henry Thomas Smart, 1867, Public Domain *The Rev. Kevin Rice Myers Executive Secretary of the Board of Ordained Ministry*

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

This service of recognition, commissioning and ordination is like no other that we have celebrated before in the Wisconsin Conference. As we continue in ministry in the midst of the global pandemic called COVID-19, we gather today virtually in many places, and yet we are the community of Christ, called together to love and serve God in all that we are and all that we do.

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 as we recognize licensed local pastors, and commission and ordain persons to ministry in The United Methodist Church.

Let us pray:

Eternal God, by Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit you gave to your apostles and all your church many excellent gifts.Come upon us, gathered together through the gift of technology to set apart those who will lead among us by calling and equipping us to fulfill your desire that we do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with you.We pray in the name of Jesus. Amen.

Recognition of Our Common Ministry

Bishop Hee Soo Jung

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. Thanks be to God!

Recognition of Licensed Local Pastors

The Rev. Mike Weaver Chairperson of the Fellowship of Licensed Local Pastors and Associate Members

Siblings in Christ, we recognize these persons who are licensed local pastors. These persons have completed the requirements for the license as a local pastor and are recommended by the District Committee on Ordained Ministry. We have inquired diligently concerning them and have found them to be fit for this sacred vocation.

Joeng Hie Lee Thanael Certa-Werner Steven DeLano Jonathan Chinkee Kim Eun Ae (Jenny) Lee Glenda McCracken Sherwin Parmar Cuauhtemoc Rios Luis Velasquez

Bishop Jung:

Let us pray: Almighty God, whose Word is truth, in the keeping of which is eternal life: we thank you for these persons, whom we set aside in your name as local pastors. Prepare them in body, mind, and spirit for their task, that they may increase and bless your Church through their labors; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Presentation of Persons to be Commissioned and Ordained

Deanna Shimko, Conference Lay Leader:

On behalf of the laity of local congregations who have examined and approved these candidates,

Krysta Deede, Chairperson of the Board of Ordained Ministry:

and on behalf of the Board of Ordained Ministry of this annual conference, which has recommended these persons, and this annual conference, which has approved them,

Together the Lay Leader and the Chairperson of the Board of Ordained Ministry: we present

Steve Scott, Chair of the Order of Elders:

these persons to be commissioned for the work of an elder,

Sarah Mae Gabuyo Ho Lee Elizabeth Marie Whitford Susan Haller, Chair of the Order of Deacons:

This person to be commissioned for the work of a deacon: Debi Lynn VanDenBoom

Steve Scott, Chair of the Order of Elders:

these persons to be ordained elders,

Douglas Kenneth Clement Breanna Rae Illéné Changki Kim François Kazadi Mukosa

Susan Haller, Chair of the Order of Deacons: This person to be ordained a deacon:

Ellen Maria Williams

The General Examination

Bishop Jung says:

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, and possess the necessary signs 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.

The bishop examines the candidates for commissioning, ordination and recognition:

My siblings in Christ, you have been called to a commissioned or ordained ministry. The church now confirms your calling.

As commissioned or ordained ministers, you are to be coworkers with the laity, bishops, deacons, diaconal ministers, deaconesses, home missioners, commissioned ministers, local pastors and elders.

Remember that you are called to serve rather than to be served, to proclaim the faith of the church and no other, to look after the concerns of God above all. So that we may know that you believe yourselves to be called by God and that you profess the Christian faith, we ask you:

Do you believe that God has called you to the life and work of ordained ministry?

I do so believe.

Do you believe in the Triune God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit and confess Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior?

I do so believe and confess.

Are you persuaded that the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments contain all things necessary for salvation through faith in Jesus Christ and are the unique and authoritative standard for the church's faith and life?

I am so persuaded, by God's grace.

Will you be faithful in prayer, in the study of the Holy Scriptures, and with the help of the Holy Spirit continually rekindle the gift of God that is in you?

I will, with the help of God.

Will you do your best to pattern your life in accordance with the teachings of Christ?

I will, with the help of God.

Will you, in the exercise of your ministry, lead the people of God to faith in Jesus Christ, to participate in the life and work of the community, and to seek peace, justice, and freedom for all people?

I will, with the help of God.

Will you be loyal to The United Methodist Church, accepting its order, liturgy, doctrine, and discipline, defending it against all doctrines contrary to God's Holy Word, and committing yourself to be accountable with those serving with you, and to the bishop and those who are appointed to supervise your ministry?

I will, with the help of God.

The bishop addresses the candidates:

May God, who has given you the will to do these things, give you grace to perform them, that the work begun in you may be brought to perfection.

All: Amen.

Commissioning of Provisional Members

The Lesson for Commissioning

Acts 13:1-3 *The Rev. Mike Weaver Chairperson of the Fellowship of Licensed Local Pastors and Associate Members*

In Acts 13 we hear of the early church commissioning persons to ministry:

The congregation in Antioch was blessed with a number of prophet-preachers and teachers:

Barnabas, Simon, nicknamed Niger, Lucius the Cyrenian, Manaen, an advisor to the ruler Herod, Saul.

One day as they were worshiping God—they were also fasting as they waited for guidance—the Holy Spirit spoke: "Take Barnabas and Saul and commission them for the work I have called them to do."

So they commissioned them. In that circle of intensity and obedience, of fasting and praying, they laid hands on their heads and sent them off."

Introduction to Commissioning

Bishop Jung:

By affirming the covenant of baptism, all members of Christ's holy church pledge to serve as Christ's representatives in the world.

Christ gave all of us this command:

"Ask the Lord of the harvest to send laborers into his harvest."

We have asked, and the Lord has answered.

These candidates know our Savior's concern for God's people,

see the plentiful harvest,

and are ready to respond generously to the Lord

in the words of the prophet: "Here I am; send me."

Urged on by the love of Christ and strengthened by the Holy Spirit, they now come to declare in public their desire to live out the covenant made at their baptism by binding themselves to the service of God under the supervision of the bishop and the guidance of ordained colleagues and by being appointed to share as servant leaders in the body of Christ.

Today we commission them to service as they continue to prepare for ordained ministry among us.

The Prayer of Commissioning

Let us pray: God of the apostles and prophets, of the martyrs and teachers, you raise up people to be apostolic leaders in your church. By your Holy Spirit help these, your servants, to understand and live the mystery of your love with boldness and joy. Deepen their sense of purpose as they exercise commissioned ministry. Empower them, and those who will walk with them to guide their ministry, together with all of your people, to heal the sick, love the outcast, resist evil, preach the Word, and give themselves freely for your name's sake.

The Act of Commissioning with Laying on of Hands

Pour out your Holy Spirit upon *Name*. Send *Name* now to proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ, to announce the reign of God, and to equip the church for ministry, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Special Music"They'll Know We Are Christians" arr. Lloyd LarsonCargill QuartetCargill UMC, Janesville, WIMarie Severing (Soprano), Barbara McCrory (Alto), Richard Severing (Tenor), and Steve Geisler (Bass).

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The Rev. Steve Scott Chair of the Order of Elders

I love you, Lord, my strength. The Lord is my solid rock, my fortress, my rescuer. My God is my rock— I take refuge in him! he's my shield, my salvation's strength, my place of safety. Because he is praiseworthy, I cried out to the Lord, and I was saved from my enemies. Death's cords were wrapped around me; rivers of wickedness terrified me. The cords of the grave surrounded me; death's traps held me tight. In my distress I cried out to the Lord; I called to my God for help. God heard my voice from his temple; I called to him for help, and my call reached his ears.

The Rev. Susan Haller Chair of the Order of Deacons

Now Jesus turned to address his disciples, along with the crowd that had gathered with them. "The religion scholars and Pharisees are competent teachers in God's Law. You won't go wrong in following their teachings on Moses. But be careful about following *them*. They talk a good line, but they don't live it. They don't take it into their hearts and live it out in their behavior. It's all spit-and-polish veneer. Instead of giving you God's Law as food and drink by which you can banquet on God, they package it in bundles of rules, loading you down like pack animals. They seem to take pleasure in watching you stagger under these loads, and wouldn't think of lifting a finger to help. Their lives are perpetual fashion shows, embroidered prayer shawls one day and flowery prayers the next. They love to sit at the head table at church dinners, basking in the most prominent positions, preening in the radiance of public flattery, receiving honorary degrees, and getting called 'Doctor' and 'Reverend.' Don't let people do that to you, put you on a pedestal like that. You all have a single Teacher, and you are all classmates. Don't set people up as experts over your life, letting them tell you what to do. Save that authority for God; let him tell you what to do. No one else should carry the title of 'Father'; you have only one Father, and he's in heaven. And don't let people maneuver you into taking charge of them. There is only one Life-Leader for you and them—Christ. Do you want to stand out? Then step down. Be a servant. If you puff yourself up, you'll get the wind knocked out of you. But if you're content to simply be yourself, your life will count for plenty.

After the reading:

Deacon: The gospel of our Lord! **People: Praise to you, Jesus Christ!**

Sermon

"The Heart of a Servant Leader"

Bishop Hee Soo Jung

The Service of Ordination Examination of Deacon

Bishop Jung:

A deacon

is called to share in Christ's ministry of servanthood, to relate the life of the community to its service in the world, to lead others into Christian discipleship, to nurture disciples for witness and service,

Here a large Bible may be lifted by an assistant.

to lead in worship, to teach and proclaim God's Word, to assist elders and appointed local pastors at Holy Baptism and Holy Communion,

Here a towel and basin with pitcher may be lifted by an assistant.

to interpret to the church the world's hurts and hopes, to serve all people, particularly the poor, the sick, and the oppressed, and to lead Christ's people in ministries of compassion and justice, liberation and reconciliation, especially in the face of hardship and personal sacrifice.

This is the rule of life and work of a deacon.

Do you believe that God has called you to the life and work of a deacon?

I do so believe.

Will you, for the sake of the church's life and mission, covenant to participate in the order of deacons?Will you give yourself to God through the order of deacons in order to sustain and build each other up in prayer, study, worship, and service?

I will, with the help of God, and the help of my siblings in the order of deacons.

Prayer for Deacon

As this person is ordained by God and the church for the ministry of the deacon to which we believe she has been called by the Holy Spirit, let us pray for her.

We thank you, Living God, that in your great love you sent Jesus Christ to take the form of a servant, becoming obedient even to death on the cross, and now resurrected and exalted in the heavens. You have taught us, by his word and example, that whoever would be great among us must be servant of all. Give this servant grace to be faithful to her promises,

constant in her discipleship, and always ready for works of loving service. Make her modest and humble, gentle and strong, rooted and grounded in love. Give her a share in the ministry of Jesus Christ, who came not to be served but to serve.

Ordination of Deacon with Laying on of Hands

Almighty God, pour upon *Name* the Holy Spirit for the office and work of a deacon in Christ's holy church. Amen.

Full Name, take authority as a deacon to proclaim the Word of God and to lead God's people in ministries of compassion and justice; in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Examination of Elders

Bishop Jung:

An elder is called to share in the ministry of Christ and of the whole church: to preach and teach the Word of God

Here a large Bible may be lifted by an assistant.

and faithfully administer the sacraments of Holy Baptism and Holy Communion;

Here a paten and chalice may be lifted by an assistant.

to lead the people of God in worship and prayer; to lead persons to faith in Jesus Christ; to exercise pastoral supervision, order the life of the congregation, counsel the troubled, and declare the forgiveness of sin; to lead the people of God in obedience to Christ's mission in the world; to seek justice, peace, and freedom for all people; and to take a responsible place in the government of the Church and in service in and to the community.

This is the rule of life and work of an Elder.

Do you believe that God has called you to the life and work of an elder?

I do so believe.

Will you, for the sake of the church's life and mission, covenant to participate in the order of elders?Will you give yourself to God through the order of elders in order to sustain and build each other up in prayer, study, worship, and service?

I will, with the help of God, and the help of my siblings in the order of elders.

Prayer for Elders

As these persons are recognized or ordained by God and the church for the ministry of elders to which we believe they have been called by the Holy Spirit, let us pray for them. We praise you, eternal God, because you have called us to be a priestly people, offering to you acceptable worship through Jesus Christ, our Lord, Apostle and High Priest, Shepherd and Bishop of our souls. We thank you that, by dying, Christ has overcome death and, having ascended into heaven, has poured forth gifts abundantly on your people, making some apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, to build up Christ's body, and to fulfill your gracious purpose in the world.

Give to these your servants the grace and power they need to serve you in this ministry. Make them faithful pastors, patient teachers, and wise counselors. Enable them to serve without reproach, to proclaim the gospel of salvation, to administer the sacraments of the new covenant, and to offer with all your people spiritual sacrifices acceptable to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Ordination of Elders with Laying on of Hands

Almighty God, pour upon *Name* the Holy Spirit, for the office and work of an elder in Christ's holy church. Amen.

Name, take authority as an elder to preach the Word of God, to administer the Holy Sacraments, and to order the life of the Church in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Virtual Offering

The Rev. Krysta Deede Chairperson of the Board of Ordained Ministry

Please go to <u>wisconsinumc.org</u> and click on the "Annual Conference Offerings and Donate to Local Churches" button in the top left of the homepage. Today's offering will support the "Clergy in Transition Fund" as explained in the video.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Bishop Jung: Let us pray:
We thank you, gracious God, for the incredible journey of faith that we share.
Through the waters of Baptism you have called each of us to follow in the way of your love and service.
We thank you for raising up among us faithful servants, who have been set apart this day to lead the community on the journey.
We thank you for the power of your Holy Spirit at work in the hearts of those who have responded to your call.
May we all glorify you by giving ourselves in the service of others, so that we might do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with you all the days of our lives.
In the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ, we pray. Amen

The Lord's Prayer

Bishop Jung:

Will you join together in the prayer that Jesus taught, each in your own first language....

All pray The Lord's Prayer

We Go Forth Dismissal with Blessing

The bishop blesses the people:

The grace of Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all always.

Go in peace to serve God and your neighbor in all that you do!

The Ordinands

Douglas Kenneth Clement

Douglas Clement is a native of Oak Creek, Wisconsin. A life-long United Methodist, he was recommended for ministry by Oak Creek Community United Methodist Church in Oak Creek. Doug earned his Bachelor's degree in German Teaching with a minor in His- tory from Winona State University in 2011 and the Master of Divinity degree from Garrett -Evangelical Theological Seminary in 2015. From 2008 to 2013, he worked on summer staff at Pine Lake United Methodist Camp, an experience which both affirmed and deep- ened his call to ministry. He served as a Licensed Local Pastor from 2014 to 2017, when he was commissioned as a Provisional Member. In July 2020, Doug began his latest appointment as the pastor of Portage UMC. Doug's primary interests in ministry include worship and liturgy, church administration, camp and retreat ministries, and discipleship formation. His connection with friends and colleagues in ministry has been a constant source of strength and encouragement throughout the journey. He also enjoys being outdoors, playing board games, traveling, as well as spending time with friends and family.

Breanna Rae Illéné

Breanna Illéné was born in Chippewa Falls where she spent a lot of time at her Lutheran church with her large extended family. She went to college at Concordia College in Moorhead, MN and then moved to Chicago for grad school to get an MA in Social Jus- tice at Loyola University. While there, she wandered into a United Methodist Church and found a place where her faith could work with her call to social action. It took her a while to figure out where her calling in ministry was. She got an MA in Christian Education from Garrett-Evangelical and an Mdiv from Iliff School of theology as she discerned her calling to be an elder in the UMC. She currently serves as the pastor of Trinity UMC: Madison and the Content Curation and Ecumenical Innovation Coordinator at the Wisconsin Council of Churches. She lives in Madison with her spouse, Andrew and dog Ira. In ministry she is passionate about new ways of doing church, social media, drinking coffee with others, and meeting new people. In her spare time she loves to read, travel, and cook and eat new foods.

Changki Kim

Changki Kim, a candidate for Ordination as an Elder in Full Connection, was born in Seoul in the Republic of Korea (South Korea). He is married to Jihyun Seo. The couple has two children, Johnny Kim (age 7) and Joy Kim (age 5).

Changki is a graduate of Methodist Theological University in Seoul, where he earned both Bachelor's and Master's Degrees in Theology, and Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary in Evanston, Illinois, where he earned his Master of Divinity Degree. In Korea he served Cheonho First Korean Methodist Church and Yang Moon United Methodist Church. He came to Wisconsin in 2013, and has served So Beautiful Korean United Methodist Church in Greenfield, Chetek United Methodist Church, and currently serves Community United Methodist Church in Elm Grove.

Changki's interests in ministry are helping people to cultivate the faith, living and working throughout their weekday lives. He believes that Life-giving worship is the beginning of that as people open each week. He is interested in small group ministry as the bridge between Sundays, and works to empower and equip families so that their homes may be places where people can meet in small groups or Weekday Faith Schools to share and grow in faith.

Changki enjoys making good coffee for others and having time with them. He loves drawing, and recalls that, as a young boy, there were some classmates who purchased the comic books he drew with the stories that he made up. He hopes to study some new ways of drawing in order to use them in ministry. He also loves music: singing and playing instruments. He enjoys spending time outside in nature with his family, and since coming to Wisconsin has learned the joys of fishing, although he finds that he is "too generous to the fish that he catches."

Francois Kazadi Mukosa

Francois Kazadi Mukosa is from Democratic Republic of Congo. He is married to Irene Monga Mwanetu who currently lives in the Congo, volunteering as an accounting teacher at one of the United Methodist Secondary Schools in Lubumbashi (Congo). God has God blessed them with three handsome boys: Guysha (8), Anais (6), and Blessing (3) almost.

Francois was born and raised in a Christian family and was involved in church activities from a very young age, which helped me a great deal in his spiritual growth.

After completing High School, he was admitted and granted a scholarship at Africa University in Zimbabwe, where he earned a bachelor's degree in Humanities and Social Sciences. While pursuing my studies at Africa University in Zimbabwe he served as a Volunteer in Mission (VIM) for three years at the Fairfield Orphanage, ministering to young children at the orphanage (Old Mutare). He trained the children and assisted them with gardening. He also led the Africa University Choir and was part of fundraising that allowed the chamber choir tour in the United States of America (2009-2010).

After completing his studies in Zimbabwe, he went back to the D.R. Congo where served as an Evangelist, then assistant pastor in the United Methodist Church North Katanga/ Democratic Republic of Congo, where he is currently a certified candidate toward the elder track. He coordinated dynamic youth activities including, but not limited to, adult Sunday School, Youth Bible Study, and Vacation Bible Studies. In 2018 he was admitted to Perkins School of Theology at Southern Methodist University (SMU) in Dallas, Texas, where he earned a Master's degree of Theological Studies this year (2020).

Francois recently served as a member of the worship team leading the music during worship services with Heart of Africa fellowship at Lovers Lane UMC/Dallas. He also volunteered with a refugee church named Afrika Community Church in Dallas, serving as a youth pastor.

Francois also enjoys exploring new places with my family, watching movies and playing soccer.

Francois currently serves as the pastor at Saint Luke's and Argonne United Methodist Churches in Crandon, Forest County, Wisconsin. He will be ordained as an Elder as a courtesy to the North Katanga Annual Conference, where he has met the requirements for ordination in that conference.

Ellen Maria Williams

Ellen Williams, a candidate for Ordination as a Deacon in Full Connection, was born and raised Southern Baptist in Staley, North Carolina and earned bachelor's degrees in Bio- chemistry and Chemistry from NC State University in 1991. She moved to Madison for graduate school, earning a PhD in Cellular & Molecular Biology from UW-Madison in 1996. Ellen married and worked as a researcher and lab manager at UW Madison be- fore resigning to raise their three children, Kate, Benjamin and Joshua. While a stay at home mom for 14 years, Ellen published in newspapers and magazines throughout southern Wisconsin and also taught microbiology at a technical college. Ellen saw the light and joined the UMC in 2002, eventually answering a renewed call to ministry and attending Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary. She graduated with a Master of Divinity in 2015. Ellen was sponsored by Sugar River UMC in Verona and appointed to People's UMC in Oregon for a secondary appointment when commissioned as a provisional deacon in 2016. She had further secondary appointments in the Green Bay area at New Hope UMC and Bethany UMC. Ellen served primary appointments in crisis care ministry as a hospital and retirement center chaplain in Baraboo, Madison and Green Bay until this past summer, when she accepted an appointment to serve as interim pastor for Tabor UMC (Gillett), Angelical UMC (Pulaski) and Zion UMC (Bonduel).

Commissioned Provisional Members

Sarah Mae Gabuyo

Sarah Mae Gabuyo, a native of Manila, Philippines, grew up in Milan, Italy. Sarah Mae was raised in the United Methodist Church and the Italian Methodist Church. She earned a combined Bachelor's and Master's degree in Flute Performance from the Conservatory of Music "A. Buzzolla" in Adria, Italy, a diploma in Voice/Opera Performance from the Claudio Abbado Civic Music School in Milan, Italy and a Bachelor of Science degree in Psychology at the University of Milano-Bicocca in Milan, Italy. Sarah Mae first came to Wisconsin in 2016 to participate in the Discipleship Intensive Program of the Epworth League in Sullivan. Following this program, she worked for the Italian Methodist Church, in partnership with the Methodist Church in Britain, to lead a young adult ministry in Rome, Italy for a year. She then went to Wesley Theological Seminary in Washington, DC, earning her M.Div. degree in May 2020. While in seminary, she served as a ministry intern at Capitol Hill UMC for two years, and served as a chaplain at Georgetown University Hospital for one summer. Following graduation, she was appointed to serve Clarno: Zion and Staver: St. Peter's UMCs. Sarah Mae is passionate for cross-cultural ministries. She is committed to make disciples of all nations for Jesus Christ and to witness transformation in the world. Sarah Mae is engaged and soon to be married to Rev. János Csomós from the Hungarian Reformed Church."

Ho Lee

Ho Lee was born in Korea into a family with a hundred-years of Christian Heritage. He is a fourth-generation Methodist. He experienced his call to ministry while in high school. After graduation from Wonju Men's High School, he attended Methodist Theological Seminary in Seoul, where he earned a Bachelor's of Theology degree in 2009. He worked at the Wonju Welfare Center for 2 years as a substitution for compulsory military duty in Korea. His responsibilities there included administering all business and services in the senior welfare department, and supervising volunteers and patrons. He also taught basic English to Seniors. He married Miyeon Kim in 2010. The couple has two daughters, Jin Lee and Ha-el Lee. After their marriage the couple volunteered at Canaan-Yonsei Global Agricultural Leadership Center to supervise and support students from twelve different developing countries. In Korea he served three Korean Methodist Churches for ten years as a student pastor, with responsibilities focused on Sunday School, youth group, young adult group, and the praise band.

Ho Lee and Miyeon Kim came to the United States in 2011, so that he could study for his Master of Divinity Degree at Boston University School of Theology, where he graduated in 2015. While in New England they joined The United Methodist Church, and he became a certified candidate for ministry in the New England Annual Conference. While in New England he served as a student pastor at the Harvard-Epworth United Methodist Church in Boston, Massachusetts, and at the Zion Korean United Methodist Church in Warwick, Rhode Island. Upon graduation from Boston University School of Theology in 2015 he transferred to the Wisconsin Annual Conference. He has served as Pastor at the Merrill: Christ, Wildwood Chapel, and Seymour: New Life United Methodist Churches.

Debi Lynn VanDenBoom

Raised in Manitowoc, Debi VanDenBoom, a candidate for commissioning as a Provisional Deacon, completed her Interdisciplinary Studies-Business Communications B.A. degree in 2004 at UW-Green Bay. Debi graduated in the Wisconsin Annual Conference inaugural class of the Youth Ministry Institute. As a Certified Lay Speaker, she has provided pulpit supply to multiple congregations in Southeastern Wisconsin while working her dual vocations in Christian Education and Aquatics. Debi is a member of the Christian Educators Fellowship and her work in Christian Education includes children's ministry, youth groups, adult ministry, and initiating and leading ecumenical VBS in Elkhorn and Delavan. She has been a presenter at the Wisconsin Conference of the United Church of Christ and attended a national training in Cleveland, Ohio when working as a Christian Educator for a UCC congregation. In 2016 Debi earned an IT-Computer Support Specialist Associate's degree from Gateway Technical College. She is a 2020 Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary graduate with a Master's degree in Pastoral Care and Counseling- Clinical Track. Debi is the Domestic Violence Counselor at Cora Lamping Center a part of the Avenue Family Network, Inc. in Benton Harbor, Michigan. She is the General Secretary for Coloring Mental Health Collective. Debi practices ecologically informed ministry, creating brave spaces for lament because lament is necessary to process grief which assists individuals in healing and their ability to connect with God.

Elizabeth Marie Whitford

Rev. Elizabeth Whitford, a candidate for Commissioning as a Provisional Elder, is from Janesville, Wisconsin, and lived 9 years of her childhood as a P.K. (Pastor's Kid) in Shullsburg, Wisconsin. She studied piano and graduated with her Bachelor of Science from University of Wisconsin-Platteville in Music. She began pastoring Whig UMC at age 19. After she graduated from UW-Platteville, she immediately sought after her Master of Divinity from the University of Dubuque Theological Seminary. Elizabeth also served Platteville UMC, Hillcrest Family Services as Youth Chaplain, Reedsburg UMC, and currently serves as the Pastor of Discipleship at Appleton: First UMC. She enjoys the many joys of teaching, and helping the congregation grow and find their passion in all shapes and sizes. She loves the connectional system of the United Methodist Church and enjoys being the new chair of the Wisconsin Board of Higher Education and Student Ministries. When not working, Elizabeth enjoys kayaking, hiking, adventuring, knitting, and reading.

NOTES ABOUT THE SERVICE

Welcome to this significant service of worship and celebration of ministry. We pray you may participate fully in offering praise and thanksgiving to our God for the work of the Holy Spirit.

In ordination, the Holy Spirit acts to maintain the priority of the gospel by setting apart Kindred in Christ called to leadership as apostles.

Acts of ordination and commissioning are anchored in the sacrament of baptism and the ministry of the baptized. All baptized Christians respond as 'the priesthood of all believers', and so, as we begin, we reaffirm our baptism together.

Commissioning may be compared to the experience of the early church in Antioch as the Holy Spirit instructed the community to 'set apart for me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them.' (Acts 13:2, NRSV) As provisional members are commissioned, we acknowledge and affirm God's call and the individual's response, gifts and training for leadership in the local church. We offer our support for their continuing formation as each one journeys toward ordination and full membership in the conference.

Ordination is understood as the act of the Holy Spirit and, as a liturgical rite, the culmination of a process in which representatives of the whole Church discern and validate the call, gifts and effectiveness for ministry. Ordination of deacons and elders is both to an office and for a lifetime. Ordination confers a new identity in the life of the church as well as authority for ministry. This identity is claimed in relation to Christ and his call to leadership and service with the baptized for the life of the world. Upon ordination, deacons and elders become accountable to the whole church, to the community of the ordained, and to the order of deacons or elders of which they are a part.

The laying on of hands, referenced in Timothy 1:6 indicates the sign of calling on God's Holy Spirit to bestow the gift of grace for ministry. Commissioned persons are blessed on the shoulders as a sign of sending into ministry for a specified period of time. They kneel facing the congregation as a sign that they are sent into the congregation for continued formation and service before ordination. In ordination, a bishop lays hands on the head of the candidate as a sign of the gifts of the Holy Spirit for a lifetime of ministry. The ordinands kneel facing the Bishop as a sign that they are sent and supported by the congregation into a lifetime of service. The whole church affirms together, with 'Amen' to indicate recognition, gratitude and commitment to the work of the Holy Spirit.

The ministry of the deacon is to teach and to form disciples, to lead worship together with other ordained and lay persons, conduct marriages and bury the dead, and lead the congregation in interpreting the needs and hopes of the world. Deacons exemplify Christian discipleship and create opportunities for others to enter into discipleship. They assist laypersons as they claim their own ministry of compassion and justice. (\P 328-9)

The ministry of the elder is expressed by leading the people of God in worship and prayer, by leading persons to faith in Jesus Christ, by exercising pastoral supervision in the congregation, and by leading the Church in obedience to mission in the world. (¶ 332)

Licensed Local pastors are appointed to a particular local church and circuit and are related to the community being served. They share with the elders the responsibilities and duties of Word, Sacrament, Order and Service. Local pastors are approved annually and are appointed and licensed by the Bishop to perform all the duties of a pastor within the charge and circuit to which they are appointed. (\P 316, 340)

Instruments and Sign Acts for the ordering of ministry are represented for the distinct orders. The Bible is common to all orders of Christ's ministry. Commissioned ministers wear no stole. The ministry of the deacon is symbolized by the basin, pitcher and towel, representing servant ministry. The deacon's stole, worn over the left shoulder, across the body, symbolizes the servant's towel. The ministry of the elder is symbolized by the chalice (cup) and paten (plate), representing the sacrament of Holy Communion. The elder's stole, yoked at the neck, hanging straight down, symbolizes the yoking with Jesus Christ. The bishop's instrument of ministry is the crozier, or shepherd's staff, symbolizing the pastoral leadership of Christ and his flock. **Ordination Service Special Offering for the Clergy in Transition Fund:** The Clergy in Transition Fund, supported by the offerings that are taken during the Ordination Service at Annual Conference each year, is used at the discretion of the Chairperson of the Board of Ordained Ministry to provide limited, short-term financial assistance to clergy who unexpectedly find it necessary to leave active ministry, either temporarily or permanently, often for reasons that are beyond their control. These transitions out of active ministry usually come with very little notice or lead-time. Clergypersons in this kind of transition not only find themselves with no source of income, but must often also find a new place to live. They may lose health insurance coverage as well. The Clergy in Transition Fund has been used provide assistance in such circumstances. Grants from the fund generally are made in amounts between \$1000 and \$2500, depending upon the specific circumstances and needs of the clergy person in transition. Your generous gifts to the Clergy in Transition Fund make it possible for the Wisconsin Conference to provide compassionate assistance to clergy who find that they must suddenly and unexpectedly move out of their current ministry. Thank you for your generous support.

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