

# McKendree Matters

McKendree-Simms-Brookland United Methodist Church

Rev. Alexis F. Brown, Pastor

24<sup>th</sup> & Lawrence Streets, NE  
Washington, DC. 20018

May/June 2024

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# WORSHIP with us



McKendree-Simms-Brookland UMC  
invites you to worship with us  
each **Sunday at 10:00 AM.**

Register here to join us for services on  
Zoom

<https://tinyurl.com/SUNDAY-MSB>

or

Worship with us in the Sanctuary at  
24<sup>th</sup> & South Dakota Avenue, NE  
Washington, DC. 20018

## DEADLINE FOR NEWSLETTER ARTICLES

**Saturday, August 24, 2024**

Send articles to: Rosalind Harris    email: [kaarmr@cs.com](mailto:kaarmr@cs.com)  
2034 Perry Street, NE  
Washington, DC 20018



### McKendree-Simms-Brookland UMC

Rev. Alexis F. Brown, Pastor  
Church Office: 2421 Lawrence Street, NE  
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202-529-3075

[pastor@alexisfbrown.com](mailto:pastor@alexisfbrown.com)

Rev. Johnsie Cogman  
District Superintendent

Rev. LaTrelle Easterling  
Resident Bishop

*Open Hearts*

*Open Minds*

*Open Doors*

The people of the United Methodist Church

## 2024 Bible Study Calendar

### IT'S TIME TO STUDY GOD'S WORD

WED	APRIL 17 – MAY 15	LECTIONARY STUDY
WED	JUNE 5 – JUNE 26	PENTECOST STUDY
WED	SEPT 4 – SEPT 25	LECTIONARY STUDY
WED	OCT 16 – NOV 13	GRATITUDE STUDY
WED	DEC 4 – DEC 18	ADVENT STUDY
TUES	DEC 24	CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP SERVICE

STARTING AT 7PM

ON ZOOM

MCKENDREE-SIMMS-BROOKLAND UMC

# Baptisms IN THE CHURCH FAMILY

SUNDAY, MARCH 31, 2024



Jayden



Kyler

## Promises On Hand

Audrey Penn's book *The Kissing Hand* features a young raccoon who's nervous about the first day of school. Mom consoles him by kissing his palm, signifying her presence with him. The youngster can simply put his hand to his face any time he needs a kiss from her. If that isn't tear-jerking enough, as the raccoon scampers to school, he returns to kiss Mom's hand so she'll have a Kissing Hand too.

That story reminds me of Matthew 28:20, when Jesus promises to be with us always, and of Psalm 23:4, which says, "I will fear no evil; for thou art with me" (KJV). God gives us a Kissing Hand through baptism, sealing us forever with the Holy Spirit and the mark of the cross of Christ.

Just as the raccoons cherish their kissing hands, may we cherish the promise of our Father's eternal presence. Thanks be to God, whose "goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life" (Psalm 23:6).



***Seven young people professed their faith through confirmation on Easter Sunday, March 31, 2024.***

Confirmation, a rite many churches celebrate each spring, has biblical roots. In Acts 8, Peter and John are sent to lay their hands on new believers and pray for them to receive the Holy Spirit. In the early church, new Christians — usually adult converts — received baptism and confirmation as one ceremony. As more children were brought for baptism, pastors and priests would baptize, but only bishops would “confirm” a baptism, or make it official. Thus, the baptized were granted full membership in the church through confirmation.

Now confirmation allows young people, often after intensive Christian education, to profess for themselves the faith into which they were baptized. Confirmation serves as an important faith milestone, as young adults purposefully embrace a life of discipleship.





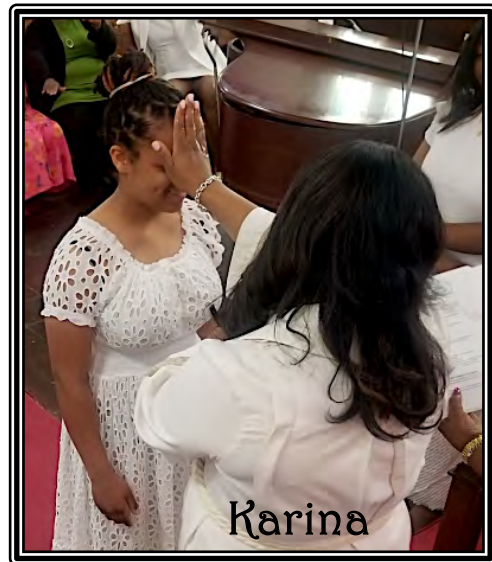
Imani



Jayden



Kelsey



Karina

### REFLECTING ON CONFIRMATION

My name is Sydney Brown and I was confirmed in The United Methodist Church this Easter. At first confirmation class was a little hard. We had to wake up early on Saturdays and put our phones away. We learned about the Bible and how we became United Methodist. We learned that as members we are really supposed to be disciples and witnesses to the Love of Jesus Christ. After many weeks, we finally made it to Easter! Being confirmed was a bigger deal than I thought. The church really embraced our commitment. I did not know that I would receive a stole, a Bible (that my family and I have been using), and some gifts. I feel more confident and accepted as a member of the church. I think I am looking forward to growing in Christ and in my relationship with the other youth. I am hoping we will be able to bring other people to Christ and develop our skills to serve.



Sydney



# Job Well Done

Mrs. Annie Rice:

## “The Purple Lady”

On March 12, 2024, Ms. Annie Rice celebrated her 104<sup>th</sup> birthday. Ms. Annie Rice came to MSB with the merger in 1972 from Simms UMC. While she was able to serve, she was a Communion steward, the Chairperson for the acolytes, and the best greeter MSB has ever had. She was always early, dressed in her purple attire, with a hat always to match her outfit. Ms. Rice liked to arrive at church early to be the first person that members would see when they arrived. She was a United Methodist woman and served in many activities. After she could not serve due to her age, the Sick and Recovering Ministry (Bertha & ‘em) would visit her in her home. When asked, “How do you feel today?”, she would reply, “I have not asked myself yet.” During COVID, the family honored her on her 100<sup>th</sup> birthday with a party. She was a faithful member and would always say, “to whom much is given, much is required”. She lived up to that scripture. Thank you, Ms. Annie Rice, from all of us at MSB. To God be the Glory!

Love,

Pastor Brown and your MSB Family

*Submitted by Sis. Bertha Cobb*



I experienced what I felt might be a taste of what it must be like to be in the presence of God. That is the feeling I received at the Easter Service on Sunday, March 31, 2024.

Thank you, Pastor Alexis F. Brown, Dr. Howard Hope, the Musicians, the Choirs, the Liturgical Dancers and the Deaf Ministry who all worked together in spreading the Joy of the Lord.

A special “Thank You” to the Media Ministry who make it possible for those individuals who are unable to be present in the Church to attend the services virtually. Having such a dedicated Media Ministry has been truly a blessing to my family.

How blessed we are here at MSB that our members share their God given gifts with us. Thank you. I am so grateful. Your work is not in vain.

*by Lucille Ratliff*



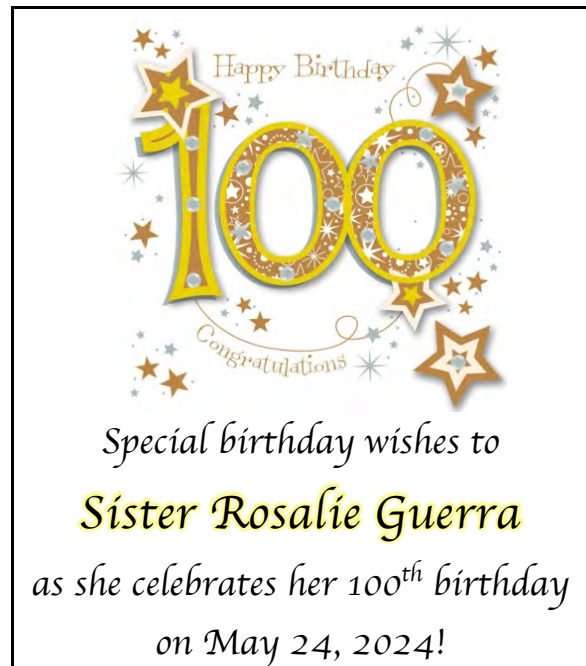


## MAY

Eric Davis	May 1
Jacqueline Moore	May 2
Jordan Betters	May 3
Pharaoh Newman	May 3
Jacqueline Hayman	May 4
Veronica Wilson	May 5
Christopher Brown	May 10
Kala Dent	May 12
Bertha Cobb	May 12
Lucy Wade	May 14
Shannon Anderson	May 15
Gregory Tyson	May 15
Reginald Shepherd	May 19
Rosalie Guerra	May 24
Clifford Reese	May 24
Jaala Dean	May 25
Andrea Logan	May 30
Paula Joachim	May 31
Christine Y. Jones	May 31

## JUNE

Cynthia Woodard	June 2
Annette Scruggs Tate	June 3
Kamryn Brown	June 3
Charlene Cooper	June 4
William Reddick	June 5
John Martin	June 8
Mark Faison	June 10
Charles Hall	June 13
Velita Francis	June 13
Corey Francis	June 18
Judy Jones	June 21
Cierra Beatty	June 25
Frances Roché	June 30





# Fight fraud in your community.

Get the conversation started with ideas from [ftc.gov/PassItOn](https://ftc.gov/PassItOn).

[ftc.gov/PassItOn](https://ftc.gov/PassItOn)

#OlderAmericansMonth



FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION



A call or a message says your computer is **INFECTED.** That's a **SCAM.**



Don't call a phone number or click a link.

Don't give control of your computer.

Don't send money.



Your **GRANDKID.** calls or emails, needing money urgently. But who is it **REALLY?**



Stop.

Don't be rushed.

Check with a family member.



**YOU WON A PRIZE!** But you can't get it unless you pay.



Stop.

Only scammers tell you to pay for a "free" prize.

If you have to pay, it's no prize,

Pass it ON

Report scams to the Federal Trade Commission at

ReportFraud.ftc.gov  
or  
1-877-382-4357



[ftc.gov/PassItOn](https://ftc.gov/PassItOn)



FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION



The McKendree-Simms-Brookland Church Family extends our sympathy to:

The family of **Katie James** – sister of **Sis. Emma Holbrook**, mother of **Sis. Frances Roche** and grandmother of **Sis. Andrea Broadnax**.

The family of **Kent Y. Mason** – brother of **Sis. Candice Parrish**.

The family of **John Thomas** – husband of **Sis. Christine Thomas**

The family of **Margie Foushee** – first cousin of **Sis. Judy Jones**.



The McKendree-Simms-Brookland Church Family mourns the passing of **Sister Tara Armwood**.

## Comforting Those Who Mourn

Words aren't always necessary — or even beneficial — when people are hurting. In *Killing Giants, Pulling Thorns* (Zondervan), Charles Swindoll tells of a girl who went to comfort the mother of a deceased playmate.

"What did you say?" the girl's parents later asked.

"Nothing," she replied. "I just climbed up on her lap and cried with her."

Joseph Bayly, who experienced the deaths of three children, shares a similar experience in *The View From a Hearse* (David C. Cook): "I was sitting, torn by grief. Someone came and talked to me of God's dealings, of why it happened, of hope beyond the grave. He talked constantly. He said things I knew were true. I was unmoved, except to wish he'd go away. He finally did.

"Another came and sat beside me. He didn't talk. He didn't ask me leading questions. He just sat beside me for an hour or more, listened when I said something, answered briefly, prayed simply, left. I was moved. I was comforted. I hated to see him go."



MAY

May 1 Isaiah 61: 1 - 6  
 May 2 Joshua 1: 1 - 9  
 May 3 1 Corinthians 10: 23 - 11: 1  
 May 4 Psalm 147: 1 - 11  
 May 5 Joel 2: 18 - 27  
 May 6 2 Peter 3: 14 - 18  
 May 7 Lamentations 3: 22 - 24  
 May 8 Exodus 16: 1 - 18  
 May 9 2 Kings 5: 1 - 14  
 May 10 Psalm 139: 1 - 12  
 May 11 2 Timothy 3: 14 - 17  
 May 12 Psalm 103: 13 - 22  
 May 13 Jeremiah 29: 10 - 14  
 May 14 Psalm 46: 1 - 7  
 May 15 Isaiah 30: 18 - 26  
 May 16 2 Kings 20: 1 - 5  
 May 17 John 16: 29 - 33  
 May 18 Psalm 16: 7 - 11  
 May 19 Acts 2: 1 - 4  
 May 20 Luke 10: 25 - 37  
 May 21 Psalm 50: 7 - 15  
 May 22 Exodus 20: 8 - 11  
 May 23 John 15: 1 - 8  
 May 24 Romans 12: 9 - 15  
 May 25 1 Peter 5: 6 - 11  
 May 26 James 1: 2 - 8  
 May 27 Matthew 15: 21 - 28  
 May 28 1 Thessalonians 5: 8 - 15  
 May 29 Psalm 112: 1 - 10  
 May 30 Matthew 22: 34 - 40  
 May 31 Psalm 107: 1 - 9

June

June 1 Romans 8: 12 - 18  
 June 2 1 Peter 4: 1 - 13  
 June 3 Matthew 18: 1 - 5  
 June 4 Psalm 111: 1 - 10  
 June 5 Genesis 22: 1 - 14  
 June 6 Psalm 31: 19 - 24  
 June 7 1 Timothy 4: 6 - 16  
 June 8 Luke 22: 22 - 31  
 June 9 Isaiah 43: 18 - 21  
 June 10 John 21: 15 - 17  
 June 11 Acts 12: 1 - 17  
 June 12 Psalm 69: 13 - 18  
 June 13 Luke 15: 1 - 7  
 June 14 2 Corinthians 12: 1 - 10  
 June 15 1 John 3: 1 - 3  
 June 16 Psalm 78: 1 - 8  
 June 17 Proverbs 3: 5 - 10  
 June 18 Luke 10: 38 - 42  
 June 19 Ecclesiastes 4: 9 - 12  
 June 20 Isaiah 40: 25 - 31  
 June 21 Revelation 21: 3 - 5  
 June 22 Zephaniah 3: 14 - 17  
 June 23 Colossians 3: 12 - 17  
 June 24 Ephesians 4: 7 - 16  
 June 25 Psalm 40: 1 - 5  
 June 26 1 Corinthians 13: 1 - 13  
 June 27 Ephesians 2: 1 - 10  
 June 28 2 Corinthians 1: 3 - 7  
 June 29 Psalm 34: 1 - 10  
 June 30 Proverbs 3: 19 - 26

*Bible Readings from **The Upper Room***



**ASCENSION**  
*Sunday*  
 May 12, 2024

**Always With Us**

Forty days after Easter, we celebrate Jesus' ascension into heaven. This occurred 10 days before Pentecost, when the Holy Spirit descended on Jesus' followers, as he had promised.

Jesus' ascension reminds Christians that although his body couldn't remain present everywhere, we can universally experience his spiritual presence. In fact, Jesus' final words to his disciples — and to us — contain this key promise: "I am with you always, to the end of the age" (Matthew 28:20, ESV).



**PENTECOST**  
*Sunday*  
 May 19, 2024

**Pentecost Passion**

Nineteenth-century evangelist Dwight L. Moody was walking down a New York City street, thinking about a sentence he'd heard: "The world has yet to see what God can do with a man who is wholly yielded to him."

Suddenly Moody felt a great yearning and cried out, "O God, make me that man!" He was so overwhelmed with God's love and with heartfelt passion to reach lost people that he had to stop at a friend's house to rest.


In *Birth of the Body*, Ray Stedman says this is what Luke is talking about when he describes the events of Pentecost. "When John the Baptist predicted that Jesus would come and baptize with the Holy Spirit and with fire, he meant that there would be an unexplainable passion about the church."

As we feel the Pentecost passion, let's yield ourselves wholly to God and see what he does with us!

**Bible Quiz**

According to Peter, at what time of day did the Holy Spirit come upon the disciples on Pentecost?

- A. 9 a.m.
- B. Noon
- C. 3:30 p.m.
- D. 9 p.m.



Answer: A (See Acts 2:15.)



May 26, 2024

## The Finest Hymn

Reginald Heber (1783-1826), a vicar and hymn-writer in England, was the first person to compile a hymnal based around the church calendar. He composed the beloved hymn "Holy, Holy, Holy" specifically for Trinity Sunday, with lyrics based on Revelation 4:8-11.

*Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!  
Early in the morning our song shall rise to Thee;  
Holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty!  
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!*

The joyful song celebrates the eternal, omnipotent Triune God. Throughout the verses, Heber used units of three to symbolize the Trinity (God is "perfect in power, in love and purity"; God is worshiped by saints, cherubim and seraphim; and he's praised "in earth and sky and sea").

Heber, who witnessed much idol worship while serving as Bishop of Calcutta, often reaffirmed God's holiness in his hymns.

British poet laureate Alfred Lord Tennyson so admired the uplifting language in "Holy, Holy, Holy" that he proclaimed it the finest hymn ever written.



## Sick and Shut-in Members

Susie Bennafield  
Matilda Corley  
Rosalie Guerra  
Eldon Hayman  
Sallie Henderson  
Mary Hubbard  
Abner McCorkle & Lucy McCorkle  
Elizabeth Phillips  
David Ratliff  
Annie Rice  
Kathryn Thornton  
Dannie Young

## Sick and Recovering Members

Linda Alexander  
Leon Anderson & Vicki Anderson  
Eleanor Hamilton  
Genevieve Johnson & Michael Johnson  
Anita Lambert  
Alvon Lewis  
Bertha McNair  
Lenora McRae  
Karlene Ore-Klimpacher  
William Reddick  
Christine Thomas

*If you have knowledge of a member who is sick, needs watch care, or is bereaved, please call the Church Office as soon as possible.*

## CALL ON HIS NAME

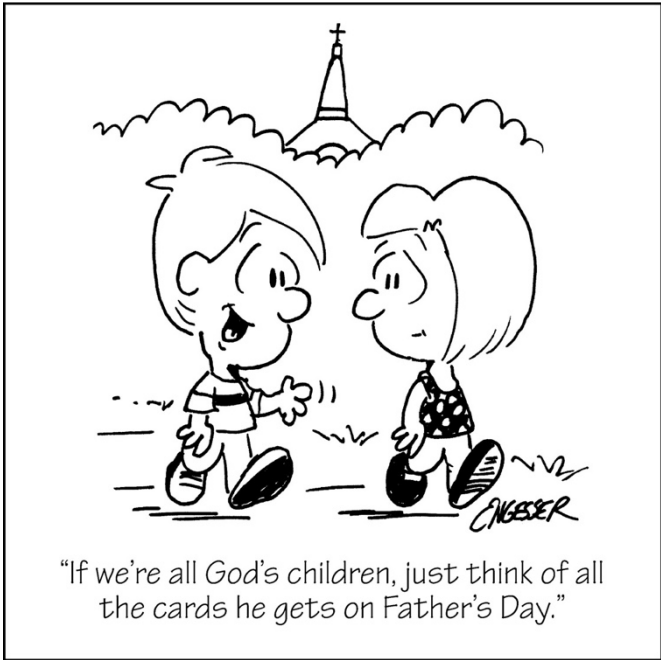




## **Mom's Favorite Sayings**

1. What part of NO don't you understand?
2. I don't care who started it!
3. Money doesn't grow on trees.
4. Your face is going to freeze like that.
5. Your hands are not broken.
6. Beds are made for sleeping, not jumping.
7. No one said life is fair.
8. Eat your vegetables.
9. "I don't know," is NOT an answer.
10. Because I said so...that's why!

*Submitted by Mary Hayman*



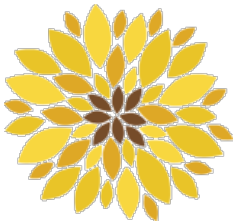
# Puzzle!

Complete this crossword with names of biblical fathers. Use the references for help, if needed.

1. King Solomon’s father, who ruled over Israel for 40 years (*2 Samuel 5:4*)
4. He was asked to sacrifice his son Isaac (*Genesis 22:1-2*)
6. He had 12 sons (*Genesis 35:22b*)
7. Samuel’s father (*1 Samuel 1:19-20*)
9. His son was Obed (*Ruth 4:21*)
10. David was the youngest of his 8 sons (*Ruth 4:17*)

2. His 3 sons helped him build an ark (*Genesis 6:10*)
3. His youngest son, Jacob, tricked him into giving away a birthright (*Genesis 27:30*)
5. The Father of our Lord (*Ephesians 1:3*)
7. His sons were not like Samuel; they were wicked (*1 Samuel 2:12*)
8. David’s best friend and the father of Mephibosheth (*2 Samuel 9:6*)
11. Father of Cain, Abel and Seth (*Genesis 4:25*)
12. He was married to Mary, mother of Jesus (*Matthew 1:20-21*)
13. Father of Jonathan; Israel chose him as their first king (*2 Samuel 9:6*)

Answer: DOWN 1. David, 4. Abraham, 6. Jacob, 7. Eli, 9. Boaz, 10. Jesse; ACROSS 2. Noah, 3. Isaac, 5. God, 7. Eli, 8. Jonathan, 11. Adam, 12. Joseph, 13. Saul





## People of Light

On Memorial Day, it is important to pause in gratitude to all those upon whose shoulders we stand. We should remember with great appreciation those who died making helpful, positive contributions — whether large or small — throughout human history. As Christians we should be especially grateful to those whose faith, service and love have enabled us to know the Gospel and its vast implications for the entire earth.

Without our Christian teachers, pastors, missionaries, and the ordinary servants of Christ, we would not have the Good News which is like a great light shining in the world's darkness. They have made sure Christ's precious Light has not gone out or been diminished.

Memorial Day is a day for us to think about the people of the Light and to express to God our appreciation for them.

## Just for Today

Life is a series of todays which we quickly turn into yesterdays that some of us spend our time regretfully looking at backward. Still others, through worry or procrastination, are always waiting for tomorrow. In either case, there's the real danger of overlooking a very important day . . . today.

For this is the place and the time for living.

Let us live each day abundantly and beautifully while it is here.



## Juneteenth: Hope For the Future Wrapped in a History Lesson



By the time Union soldiers rode into Galveston, Texas, to announce the end of slavery, 2½ years had passed since the signing of the Emancipation Proclamation. The message of freedom had failed to reach a quarter of a million enslaved Black people.

That is, until June 19, 1865, the date that marked the end of government-sanctioned slavery in America, and that would become known as [Juneteenth](#).

Through the years, Juneteenth has been commemorated, primarily by Black Americans, with prayer events, families gathered around large meals and parades and festivals.

Fast forward more than 150 years.

In 2021, Juneteenth became a federal holiday in the United States, observing the date when news of emancipation was delivered in Galveston.

But in the words of Opal Lee, a Black woman from Fort Worth, Texas who is largely responsible for the national holiday becoming a reality, “None of us are *free* until we’re all *free*, and we aren’t *free* yet.”

The struggle for equality and justice—true freedom—continues. Inequity persists.

As United Methodists, we vow to accept the freedom and power God gives us to resist evil, injustice and oppression. There is still much work for us to do. As we seek to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world, we do so in this context of persistent injustice and oppression.

Then and now, the life-changing spirit behind Juneteenth is needed: a commitment to ensure full freedom for all people.

<https://www.umc.org/en/content/juneteenth-hope-for-the-future-wrapped-in-a-history-lesson>

In Person

# ALL-CHURCH MEETING

Saturday, May 18, 2024  
10:00AM



June 9, 2024

Parents/guardians of students completing Kindergarten, Elementary School, Middle School, High School or College, please complete and submit the 2024 Graduate Recognition Sunday Form to the Education/Scholarship Committee or Church Office by Sunday, May 26, 2024. Forms are located in the Narthex.

Questions?  
Contact Sister Nikki Dobyns

SATURDAY  
JUNE 29th

**CHURCH COOKOUT**

**&**

Blessing of the Bikes

<p>SAVE the DATES for VBS</p>	Friday, July 19, 2024	6:00pm – 8:30pm
	Saturday, July 20, 2024	10:00am – 12:30pm
	Friday, July 26, 2024.	6:00pm – 8:30pm
	Saturday, July 27, 2024	10:00am – 12:30pm
	Sunday, July 28, 2024	10:00am Worship Service



## 2024 Annual Conference

Clergy and lay members will gather in holy conferencing at the 240th session of the Baltimore-Washington Conference on **Wednesday, May 29, through Friday, May 31**, at the Hilton Hotel, 401 West Pratt St. in Baltimore.

An online Pre-Conference Briefing will be held Saturday, May 11, from 9 a.m. to noon.

The Rev. Dr. Carla Works, Dean of Wesley Theological Seminary in Washington, D.C. will be the preacher at the service of ordination and lead this year's Bible study.

The theme of the conference, presided over by Bishop LaTrelle Easterling, is "Like Fire Shut Up in Our Bones," inspired by Jeremiah 20:9. The guiding Scripture passage for the Annual Conference session is Romans 12:1, 9-12: *"I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, on the basis of God's mercy, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your reasonable act of worship. ... Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer."*



United  
Women  
in Faith

**Mission u**  
July 20, 2024

Theme:

***The Kin-dom is Among You:  
Drawing Closer to God and Each  
Other***

Location:

**Maritime Conference Center  
Linthicum Heights, MD**

Registration Opens:

**May 1, 2024**

### Take Me Out to the Ballgame!




Bishop LaTrelle Easterling will throw out the first pitch when the Orioles play the Boston Red Sox on May 29, as 1,000 United Methodists look on from the stands. You'll want to be a part of the action.

The game, which starts at 6:30 p.m., is part of the Annual Conference Session, which is meeting at the Hilton Hotel, next to the ballpark. Clergy and Lay Members to Annual Conference should note their intent to attend the game when they register. Tickets are free.

After registration closes on May 8, the tickets will go on sale to guests and others for \$22 each. If you have already registered for the conference but didn't reserve your ticket, contact [ac2024@bwcumc.org](mailto:ac2024@bwcumc.org)



**MCKENDREE MATTERS**  
McKendree-Simms-Brookland  
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Washington, DC. 20018

 *This newsletter was prepared especially for*

