

INDIANA CONFERENCE COMMITTEE ON EPISCOPACY

The Indiana Conference Committee on Episcopacy meets with Bishop Julius C. Trimble to provide him, along with his Executive Assistant, The Rev. Larry Whitehead, support and insight concerning the Indiana Area, among other duties (BOD 2016, par. 637). This committee assists our Bishop in similar fashion as the local church Pastor-Parish Relations Committee assists the pastor.

Because Bishop Trimble is retiring this year, Indiana will receive a different bishop assigned to us effective September 1, 2024. The North Central Jurisdiction Committee on Episcopacy is responsible for the assignment of bishops within our jurisdiction. We provided input for use in their next meeting, July 10-13. Please pray for discernment in the assignment of the next bishop to the Indiana Conference.

First Lady Racelder Grandberry-Trimble has a heart for healing, spiritual development, personal growth, holiness, and wholeness. She is a committed volunteer and a civic organizer speaking to issues facing women, children, and families. Her personal call statement is: "I will serve God and humanity where I can be a positive influence on as many lives as possible." We celebrate First Lady's ministry as a Glory Sighting. Glory to God!

Space does not allow us to share here all of the gifts, actions, leadership, and service Bishop Trimble has provided during his ministry in Indiana. Here is a list of many of the initiatives and actions Bishop Trimble brought to the Indiana Conference (in no particular order).

- Serving as a faithful champion of our mission to "make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world."
- IN Against Racism
- Children Matter Most
- Leadership in the COVID-19 pandemic
- Continued commitment to new ministries
- Continued commitment to Mission and Justice
- Compassionate leadership through disaffiliations
- "Be Encouraged" podcast
- The Africa University Scholarship missional challenge was exceeded. The goal was \$300,000 by December 2023. \$330,000 plus has been raised to date.
- The last quarter of 2023 witnessed numerous congregations embracing the Growing Young initiative and the Breakthrough Prayer 28-day challenge.

In all of these things and many more, we have been "encouraged."

We celebrate Bishop Trimble's ministry and service to the Indiana Conference and pray for the Trimbles' smooth transition to retirement. We celebrate Bishop Trimble's presence and leadership among us through the last eight years as a Glory Sighting. Glory to God!

The Rev. Larry Whitehead is an effective and helpful Executive Assistant to the Bishop and Chief of Staff.

1 The title "Chief of Staff" is an indication that Larry has been working on a restructuring of areas of
2 responsibility among the directors. The restructure also allows Larry to focus on the transition needs (with the
3 Transition Team) in preparation for the transition from bishop to bishop this fall.

4
5 Larry has actively worked with Bishop Trimble and Dean of the Cabinet, Rev. Dr. Aleze Fulbright, in the
6 ongoing development of the Cabinet as one of the primary leadership groups of the Indiana UMC. As a
7 reminder, the Cabinet label has replaced the Extended Cabinet to describe one team which includes the
8 Director of Conference Ministries and the Director of Administration.

9
10 Larry has worked with the Conference Sessions Committee to discover a new location for the 2024
11 Conference Session location. We join Larry and the Committee in expressing gratitude to St. Luke's UMC in
12 Indianapolis for hosting.

13
14 He is inspired by the prophetic word found in Isaiah 43:18-19, where God says, "Forget the former things;
15 do not dwell on the past. See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it?"

16
17 We celebrate The Rev. Larry Whitehead's ministry and leadership among us as a Glory Sighting.
18 Glory to God!

19
20 Rev. Charlie Wilfong, Chairperson

21
22 Members of the Indiana Conference Committee on Episcopacy

23 Patricia Ballinger

24 Cathy Burris

25 Rev. Ben Cassidy

26 Kathie Clemenz

27 Jana Day

28 Daniel Evans, Jr., Vice-Chairperson

29 Rev. Dr. Aleze Fulbright, Jurisdictional Committee on Episcopacy

30 Chris Hancock, Jurisdictional Committee on Episcopacy

31 Alisa Isaacs-Bailey

32 David Johns

33 Candace Landry

34 Rev. Dr. Kent Lundy

35 Rev. Dr. Marion Miller

36 Seana Murphy

37 Shannon Priddy, Conference Lay Leader

38 David Rushton

39 Rev. Charlie Wilfong, Chairperson