

Florida Conference of The United Methodist Church Report on the Florida Conference Lay Leader Nominee for 2020-2024

The Board of Lay Ministry of the Florida Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church has designed a system, in accordance with the *Florida Annual Conference Standing Rules*, for selecting a nominee to present to the Annual Conference for election as the Conference Lay Leader for 2020-2024.

A Committee on Nominations was formed, consisting of members of the Board of Lay Ministry, elected Past Conference Lay Leader Russ Graves as Chairperson, along with two District Leaders, one Young Adult member, and the Board Secretary.

The Committee engaged in prayer and discernment over the course of a month in consideration of two names. The Board made its decision by electronic ballot. The voting members of the Board of Lay Ministry unanimously selected the name of one individual to be put forward as the nominee for Conference Lay Leader by implementing the process outlined in the *Florida Annual Conference Standing Rules*. The relevant section of Paragraph 413.6.d.2 of the *Standing Rules* is printed below. It relates to the nomination procedures the Board of Lay Ministry uses for Conference Lay Leader:

Par. 413.6 Board of Lay Ministry.

d. 2). The Board will review the list of persons nominated, or seeking, to hold the office of Conference Lay Leader. The Board will discuss the gifts and graces of each person in light of the direction and needs of the Conference. If, in the opinion of the Board, one particular nominee seems best suited at this time to carry forth the objectives of the Board, a simple majority vote of those present would then be the basis for the nomination.

The *Standing Rules* further states that the Conference Lay Leader will be elected by the following process during the election of Lay Leader which will occur during the Virtual Annual Conference Session, on September 19, 2020. The Annual Conference Session will begin at 9:00 a.m.

Para. 413.6 Board of Lay Ministry

e. The nominee(s) for Conference Lay Leader will be reported to the Annual Conference. All members of the Annual Conference, clergy and lay, will elect the Conference Lay Leader. A simple majority is required for election. Nominations from the floor of the Annual Conference are not allowed.

As a result of the Board of Lay Ministry process, Alice Williams will be presented as the nominee for Conference Lay Leader. Alice is a member of St. Luke's United Methodist Church in Orlando. She is widely known and well-respected throughout our Conference and our Connection. She is the former Lay Leader for the East Central District. She also served on the Commission on a Way Forward and continues to serve on The General Board of Higher Education and Ministry, and other leadership within The United Methodist Church. She serves as the co-convener of the Beloved Community, which is

one component of Bishop Carter's Task Force on Anti-racism. She is a member of the Florida delegation to the postponed 2020 General Conference.

We look forward to your presence and participation on September 19, 2020, during the Virtual Annual Conference Session.

Blessings,

Paulette Monroe, Conference Lay Leader