



Rev. Dr. Sharon G. Austin

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In her role as the Director of Connectional and Justice Ministries, Rev. Dr. Sharon G. Austin is responsible for serving as steward of the vision of [The Florida Conference of The United Methodist Church](#). In 1981 she made history as the first woman ordained in the 95-year history of Ebenezer Baptist Church, Atlanta, GA., home church and former pastorate of The Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. In 1984 she became the first woman to serve on the pastoral staff of that church with the late senior pastor, the Rev. Dr. Joseph L. Roberts, Jr. A day was named in her honor in Atlanta, GA, for her work with women and children. She moved to FL and transferred her clergy orders to The United Methodist Church in 1997 where she has served as a pastor and District Superintendent prior to her current role.

Dr. Austin and her husband and are the proud parents of four adult children and the grandparents of one grandson! She is a teacher, preacher, and courageous leader.