The Lord is with you. And also with you.

Bishop McAlilly, sisters and brothers of the Memphis Conference, and guests, good morning.

On behalf of the Board of Ordained Ministry, I am honored to bring our report on behalf of the women and men, lay and clergy, who do this important work on behalf of the Memphis Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church. Will all members of the Board of Ordained Ministry please stand? Please join me in praising God for these servants and their faithful stewardship of the important work charged to this body.

This conference year, we welcomed Ms. Deborah Owens to the Office of Leadership Formation and Development (formerly the Office of Ministerial Concerns) and continued the work of aligning our Board of Ministry work with the Tennessee Conference by creating an area-wide Orientation to Ministry. It has been challenging but fruitful work. We are grateful for the support of the Office of Leadership Formation and Development, our Nashville Area Orientation to Ministry team co-chairs The Rev. Dr. Gary Morse and The Rev. Nan Zoller, as well as the cooperation of our DCOM leaders for their work.

For the last several years, we have partnered with the General Board of Higher Education in Ministry in its Excellence in Clergy Leadership Scholarship Program to help reduce the amount of debt carried by students who attend United Methodist Seminaries. This morning I would like for us to hear from scholarship recipient Christy Brown, a candidate for ministry from Collierville United Methodist Church. But first let’s watch a brief video about the Excellence in Clergy Leadership Scholarship Program and then the next voice you will hear will be Christy Brown’s.

Clergy Excellence in Leadership Scholarship Video

Christy Brown speaks....

This year we have 3 local pastors receiving their license for the first time: Christy Brown, Mike Fitzpatrick and Jamie Smith

We have two candidates elected to Provisional Membership by the Clergy Session to be commissioned:

Larry Chitwood
Larry earned a Bachelor of Business Leadership from Union University and Master of Divinity from Memphis Theological Seminary. He is married to Lisa.

Larry has been examined by the Board of Ordained Ministry. He answers the questions of the Discipline satisfactorily. He was elected to Provisional Membership at the Clergy Session and is recommended to be commissioned an Elder in the United Methodist Church.

Ernestine Hunt
Earnestine earned a Bachelor of Business Administration from University of Memphis. She holds a Master of Divinity and Doctor of Ministry from Memphis Theological Seminary. She is married to Nathaniel and they have three children: Julius, Natalie, and Jason.
Ernestine has been examined by the Board of Ordained Ministry. She answers the questions of the Discipline satisfactorily. She was elected to Provisional Membership at the Clergy Session and is recommended to be commissioned an Elder in the United Methodist Church.

We have one candidate elected to Full Connection Membership by the Clergy Session to be ordained Deacon

**Janean Tinsley**
Janean earned a Bachelor of Arts at Western Kentucky University in Print Journalism, a Master of Science in Counseling from Capella University, and completed Basic Graduate Theological Studies at Garrett Evangelical Seminary. She is married to Allen and they have one child, Carson.

Janean has been examined by the Board of Ordained Ministry. She answers the questions of the Discipline satisfactorily. She was elected to Full Connection Membership at the Clergy Session and is recommended to be ordained a Deacon in the United Methodist Church.

We have three candidates to be elected to Full Connection Membership as Ordained Elders

**Amanda Crice**
Amanda earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Middle School Education from Murray State University and a Master of Divinity from Candler School of Theology. She is married to Justin.

Amanda has been examined by the Board of Ordained Ministry. She answers the questions of the Discipline satisfactorily. She was elected to Full Connection Membership at the Clergy Session and is recommended to be ordained an Elder in the United Methodist Church.

**Chris Eaves**
Christ earned a Bachelor of Arts in Business from University of South Alabama and a Master of Divinity from St. Paul School of Theology. He is married to Leslie and together they have three children: Ariel, Kate and Morgan.

Chris has been examined by the Board of Ordained Ministry. He answers the questions of the Discipline satisfactorily. He was elected to Full Connection Membership at the Clergy Session and is recommended to be ordained an Elder in the United Methodist Church.

**Amanda Hartmann-Westmoreland**
Amanda earned a Bachelor of Arts from Lambuth University and a Master of Divinity from Vanderbilt University. She is married to Adam.

Amanda has been examined by the Board of Ordained Ministry. She answers the questions of the Discipline satisfactorily. She was elected to Full Connection Membership at the Clergy Session and is recommended to be ordained an Elder in the United Methodist Church.
Bishop, each of these candidates has been examined by the Board of Ordained Ministry. They answer the questions of the Discipline satisfactorily. They were elected to Full Connection Membership at the Clergy Session and are recommended to be ordained in the United Methodist Church.

_Bishop asks Wesley’s historic questions to the ordination candidates from ¶336, 2016 Book of Discipline_

It is my charge to answer Question 17 from the _Business of the Annual Conference_ before the whole body of the Conference. It is the question on clergy conduct and character. Are the clergy fit for appointment?

We answer this question realizing that none of us, clergy or lay, are what we should be in our character and conduct. By God’s grace, we strive to be made perfect in our love of God and one another as expressed in our commitment to Christian covenantal living.

_Are all the clergy members of the Conference blameless in their life and official administration (¶¶604.4, 605.6)?_ Yes. There are no charges pending against any of our clergy.

This completes the Report of the Board of Ordained Ministry.

Respectfully Submitted on this Third day of June in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand Nineteen,

_Reverend Autura Eason-Williams_
Chair, Board of Ordained Ministry