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**City:** Pine Bluff

**State:** AR

**Zip Code:** 71603

**Membership:** Clergy (Elder in Full Connection)

**District:** Southeast

**Church:** Good Faith Carr / Redfield Charge

**Commitment as a Delegate and Christian Conferencing Guidelines:**

**I have read and accept the [Christian Conferencing Guidelines](#).**

Yes

**Share your reasons for wanting to be a delegate.**

*I am committed to the future of our connection and wish to dedicate my time and talents to maintaining unity while following the lead of the Holy Spirit, particularly where full inclusion of all believers and social justice are concerned.*

**What leadership experiences have you had in the church or community that will help you do the work of the delegation?**

*I have served as an elder for ten years, pastoring several churches. I have completed the New Church Leadership Institute, served as a circuit elder since the inception of the program, served on a district committee on ministry, and serve as part of the leadership team of Arkansas Reconciling Methodists. In the community, I am national chaplain of Alpha Kappa Lambda Fraternity and a local chaplain in Civitan. In the past I participated in the Lions' Club. I also hold a Doctorate of Ministry focused in missional studies.*

**Share three (3) areas crucial to The United Methodist Church's mission to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world:**

*(1) The eligibility of all believers for the Christian rites of matrimony and ordination. (2) The nature and importance of unity in the connection. (3) Ecumenical relationships with other Christian churches.*

**What are three (3) issues emerging from those areas you stated above:**

*(1) I support the eligibility of LGBT persons for Christian matrimony (after appropriate pastoral counseling and with pastoral approval, as with all people) and ordination (after the normal processes of examination, as for all people). (2) It is vital that the church remain united; however, United Methodist churches outside the USA should have more local autonomy: in the postcolonial and postimperial era, a context of more localized autonomy is appropriate. (3) The Spirit is drawing many churches along with the UMC on compatible courses of justice and faith, and every effort to overcome the divisions of the past should be made.*



