

Rev. Wendy van Vliet

Rev. Wendy van Vliet is a devoted disciple of Jesus, now retired and rewired for ministry in her new southern Maryland community. She previously served with the congregation of Davidsonville United Methodist Church in the Annapolis area.

Her call to ordained ministry came later in life. She earned her Master of Divinity from Wesley Theological Seminary in 2011, following a general arts degree from the University of Baltimore in 2009. Earlier, in the 1980s, her business degree from Toronto Metropolitan University led to a career as a computer programmer analyst, earning her the affectionate title of "techy pastor" among some.

Rev. Wendy finds joy in serving as a volunteer youth leader at Hollywood United Methodist Church, a Girl Scout leader, and a prayer pastor with Solomon's Mission Center. Retirement has also gifted her more time with family, especially her seven grandchildren, whom she cherishes.

Her retirement home, nestled in her daughter's neighborhood near the mouth of Lewis Creek where it meets the Patuxent River, offers a serene backdrop. She starts her days kayaking the waterways, communing with herons and ospreys. She also enjoys walks with her dog, bike rides, crafting, and cooking with her grandchildren—moments she describes as simply awesome.

In retirement, Pastor Wendy feels privileged to take on short-term assignments with congregations like Olivet United Methodist Church. She looks forward to discovering how God's Holy Spirit will inspire and guide their time together.