

Olivet United Methodist Church
Rev. Dr. Johnsie W. Cogman, Interim Pastor
Town Hall Meeting
Sunday, September 7, 2025

Our Items for Today

Welcome/Purpose – Pastor Cogman

Scripture – Lay Leader Jeannette Findley

Prayer – Lay Leader Jeannette Findley

Church Conference Items

- Care of Members Report
- Nominations
- Clergy Compensation

Pastoral Appointment

Q&A

PASTORAL PERSONAL QUESTIONS

1. What are the Pastor's Family dynamics?
Married 45 years to Barbara, and they have three grown children.
2. What Education degrees does the Pastor have? **BA, MTS, DMin.**
3. Does the Pastor live within the 27-mile radius required by the conference?
Yes.
4. Does the Pastor have another job? **No.**
5. What are the Pastor's office hours? **By Appointment; Tentative Schedule.**
Monday – Community; Tuesday – Office; Wednesday – Noon and Evening Bible Study; Thursday – Ripple Center/in the office, sermon prep (tentative); Friday Sabbath. Listening sessions on Sundays in October, November, and December, 2 pm -3 pm.
6. How & when will the Pastor be in the Community? **Schools, HUB, etc.**
7. Will the Pastor serve the Ripple Center? **Yes.**

8. What does the Pastor enjoy about being a Pastor?
Preaching and teaching the Word of God and watching lives be transformed
9. What is most challenging about being a Pastor?
Sometimes, taking care of the Flock
10. How does the Pastor handle conflict?
Slows things down and listens to understand, rather than respond, and shows respect for all people.
11. What does the Pastor like to do for fun? **Falconry, spending time with family.**
12. What makes the Pastor angry? **Hateful People.**
13. How does the Pastor practice self-care?
Runs on the beach, Tai Chi, Lifts weights, enjoys Falconry, and takes time with family.
14. Why does the Pastor want to serve Olivet?
He watched the Worship service and saw the care and love when the members prayed for people and the genuine concern for all, and he wanted to be a part of that Community.

PASTORAL LEADERSHIP QUESTIONS

15. Is the Pastor connectional (HUB, Community, District, Conference)?
YES. He will participate in Hub, community events, district leadership, and conference events.
16. What is the Pastor's start date? **October 1, 2025**
17. When is the Pastor's Service of Welcome? **Sunday, November 2, 2025**
18. What is the Pastor's Leadership Style?
Collaboration with the Team approach
19. What is the Pastor's preaching style.....lectionary, sermon series, etc....?
Lectionary, coupled with current events, and sermon series.
20. Will the Pastor teach Bible Study? **Yes. Day and Evening.**
21. Does the Pastor have plans to engage the youth?
Yes. He and his wife ran youth groups together for 20 years, and he will be working with the local middle and high schools.
22. What is his Pastoral Experience? **See Bio**
23. How does the Pastor plan to engage the Middle-aged constituency?
Listening sessions

24. How does the Pastor approach or deal with change?

Change is necessary and will be implemented when it benefits the Church and the Community.

25. How does the Pastor encourage volunteering in the Church?

Getting to know the gifts of the members and encouraging the use of those gifts.

26. How does the Pastor plan to implement processes to bring finances into Olivet that will allow Olivet to pour into the Community?

Working with the Unified Board, community, and resources from the Conference.

27. Will the Pastor support the development of United Women in Faith and United Methodist Men's Group?

YES. Both entities will be reviewed and revamped as necessary.