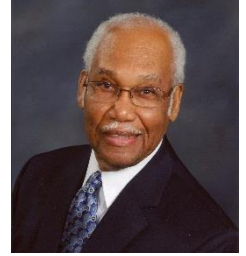


Charles Wesley Jordan

Bishop, retired, The United Methodist Church

Charles Wesley Jordan was born in Dayton Ohio, the son of the Reverend David M. Jordan and Naomi Harper Jordan. His father was the pastor of McKinley M.E. Church in Dayton. He has a B.A. degree from Roosevelt University, and a Master of Divinity degree from Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary.



He was ordained Deacon and Elder in the Rock River Conference (now Northern Illinois Conference). He served Woodlawn Methodist Church in Chicago from 1959-1966 and was then appointed to the position of Director of Urban Ministries in Rockford, Illinois. In 1971 he became a member of the Northern Illinois Conference Program Staff. In 1982 he was appointed the Superintendent of the Chicago Southern District. In 1987 he was appointed senior pastor of St. Mark United Methodist Church, Chicago

While at St. Mark, he instituted “Renewal 88”, a campaign to refurbish the church, the parsonage and to purchase the first church bus. Ground was broken for the St. Mark Manor, housing for Senior Citizens, and the building was completed during his tenure. A relationship was established with the First Korean UMC of Chicago during a time of tensions between Korean businesses and the Black community residents. This effort was formally recognized by the Chicago City Council and featured in the *Chicago Tribune*.

Charles Wesley Jordan was elected to the episcopacy at the North Central Jurisdictional Conference in 1992, and was the first St. Mark pastor to be elected while serving at St. Mark. He was assigned to the Iowa Area. He retired from active episcopal assignment on September 1, 2000. In January, 2001 he became the Bishop in Residence at Claremont School of Theology, Claremont, California, and retired on June, 2016

Bishop Jordan has participated in many organizations and activities in the United Methodist denomination and in the communities he has served. He was elected to five General Conferences and chaired his conference delegation twice. He served eight years each on the General Board of Global Ministries and the General Council on Ministries. He was a member of the General Board of Church and Society, 1992-2000, and served as president, 1996-2000. He was the Episcopal representative on the North Central Jurisdiction Commission on Religion and Race, 1992-2000. He also served as trustee of Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary (1982-97) and was elected a life trustee in 2000.

He is a member of Sigma Pi Phi fraternity and has life memberships in Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, NAACP and Black Methodists for Church Renewal.

He was elected to the Hall of Fame of Wendell Phillips High School in Chicago in 1989. In 1994 he was given the George Washington Carver Lecture Award from Simpson College. In 2008 he was honored with the Garrett-Evangelical Seminary Distinguished Alumni Award. He has received honorary degrees from Morningside College, Rust College, and Simpson College. His interests are African American Church History and secular politics.

In 1959 Charles Wesley Jordan married Margaret May Crawford. Professionally she has been a teacher and counselor in the public schools of several communities. Currently she is a travel consultant. The Jordans have two adult daughters, Diana Elizabeth Jordan, an actor and a private school teacher, and Charlie Jordan Brookins, Founder and Owner of *Fit Thru Faith Enterprises*. Both daughters live in Los Angeles. The Jordans have two grandsons, James Wesley and Jordan Gregory Brookins.

The Jordans currently live in Upland, California.
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