

Martin Luther King, Jr. Virtual Celebration Event

*A collaboration between the NIC Conference Commission on Religion & Race
and Black Methodists for Church Renewal*

**Sunday, January 31, 2021
3:00 to 4:00 pm**

Rev. Dr. Stacey Cole Wilson – Keynote Speaker
“Where Are We on the Arc of the Moral Universe (Bending Towards Justice)?”

Introduction	Rev. Marcus Tabb
Welcome and Greetings	Bishop John Hopkins
Shout-Out to Youth	Caleb Bunton, Justice Generation
Prayer	Rev. Irene Taylor <i>Calling on the United Methodist Church to Be a Prophetic Voice</i>
Music	“Come to the Table” – Cameron Overton
Introduction of the Guest Speaker	Rev. Felicia LaBoy
Presentation	“Where Are We On The Arc Of The Moral Universe (Bending Toward Justice)?” Rev. Dr. Stacey Cole Wilson
Conversation and Q & A	Rev. Felicia LaBoy, Leader
Prayer	Rev. Dr. Aaron McLeod <i>Remembering those whose lives were lost in racially unjust law enforcement actions</i>
Introduction of Cameron Overton	Adrian Hill
Presentation	“Aspects of Intersectionality in the Conversation on Justice” Cameron Overton
Music	“I Open My Mouth” - for Eric Garner and George Floyd Adrian Dunn Singers
Closing Prayer and Sending Forth	Rev. Alka Lyall <i>Racial justice and understanding in our nation</i>
Exit Music	“The Kingdom is Yours” – Cameron Overton

Participants

Caleb Bunton – Justice Generation, Chicago: St. Mark United Methodist Church

Adrian Dunn – Gospel Choir Director, First United Methodist Church at The Chicago Temple

Adrian Hill – Lay Delegate, 2020 General Conference, United Methodist Church

Bishop John Hopkins – Interim Bishop, Northern Illinois Conference, United Methodist Church

Rev. Felicia LaBoy – Pastor, Elgin: First United Methodist Church

Rev. Alka Lyall – Pastor, Chicago: Broadway United Methodist Church

Rev. Dr. Aaron McLeod – Pastor, Chicago: Gorham United Methodist Church

Cameron Overton – Lay Worship Pastor, Zao MKE Church, Milwaukee

Rev. Marcus Tabb – Pastor, Maywood: Neighborhood United Methodist Church

Rev. Irene Taylor – Retired Clergy, Northern Illinois Conference, United Methodist Church

Rev. Dr. Stacey Cole Wilson – Executive Minister of Justice and Service, Baltimore-Washington Conference, United Methodist Church (see bio on page 3)



REV. DR. STACEY COLE WILSON



Stacey Cole Wilson is the Executive Minister of Justice and Service for the Baltimore-Washington Conference of The United Methodist Church. She is a wife, mother, ordained minister, igniter of social justice, and a champion for human rights. She received a call into ministry as a youth and is a believer in *freedom and justice for all*.

Before joining the Conference Staff, Dr. Wilson served as the Lead Pastor of Good Hope Union UMC in Silver Spring, MD (2012-2016), the Pastor of Mount Winans United Methodist Church in Baltimore (2007-2012), and as the Associate Pastor of Linthicum Heights United Methodist Church in Linthicum, Maryland (2003-2007).

As a writer and minister, she has received national acclaim for her prayers and litanies published in the award-winning *Africana Worship Book*; and, she has been honored to receive and share the Word of God nationally and internationally for the glory of God and upbuilding of the nations.

She has served as Wesley Theological Seminary's Commencement Preacher/Speaker at the National Cathedral in Washington, D.C., Princeton University Chapel's Guest Preacher for their Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Service of Recommitment, and United Theological Seminary's Distinguished Doctoral Alum of the Year.

As an ardent believer in education and community service, Dr. Wilson serves on the Board of Governors for Wesley Theological Seminary, the Northeastern Jurisdiction United Methodist Volunteers in Mission (NEJUMVIM), is a member of the International Coaching Federation (ICF) and is a founding member and chaplain of the Female Clergy Support Group of Maryland among many other committees, boards and agencies.

Stacey earned her undergraduate degree in Chemistry from Morgan State University and has worked professionally as a Senior Analytical Chemist specializing in Petroleum and Materials Characterization via Mass Spectrometry, X-Ray Fluorescence (XRF), and X-Ray Diffraction (XRD).

She has earned a Master of Divinity degree from Wesley Theological Seminary and a Doctor of Ministry degree from the United Theological Seminary with an emphasis on Collaborative Community-Church Partnerships. She is a distinguished *Foundations of Church Leadership* Duke Divinity Fellow, Lewis Fellow, Lewis Community Leaders Fellow, Transition in Ministry (TiM) Excellence Fellow, and was a participant in The Joseph Engle Preaching Roundtable (3 Yr. Program) at Princeton Theological Seminary in NJ.

She is the daughter of Gary and Pearl Cole; wife of International Music Producer and Pastor Wayne Wilson; and, mother of two great joys in her life, Ava, and Christian Wilson.

"Freedom is not a state; it is an act. It is not some enchanted garden perched high on a distant plateau where we can finally sit down and rest. Freedom is the continuous action we all must take, and each generation must do its part to create an even more fair, more just society." – Congressman John Lewis

and what does the LORD require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God? – Micah 6:8, NRSV