

Reflections on the Shared Journey-

This Sunday, April 20, Bishop Jonathan D. Keaton, resident bishop of the Michigan Area of The United Methodist Church, will preach for us. Bishop Keaton will be in Fort Worth for the Council of Bishops meeting that precedes General Conference. He has graciously agreed to preach for us in the midst of his demanding schedule.

Bishop Keaton has served the Michigan Area since September of 2004. Before that, he served two quadrenniums as bishop of the Ohio East Area. He was elected bishop in 1996 out of the Northern Illinois Conference where he served as a District Superintendent, as a member of the Conference staff, and as a pastor. He was also a teaching assistant at Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary in Chicago.

Bishop Keaton is a strong advocate of Christian unity, spiritual formation, social issues and world missions.

Bishop Keaton is a graduate of Philander Smith College in Little Rock, Arkansas. This school honored him in 1967 with the Outstanding Service Award. He is also a graduate of Garrett Seminary, where he earned both his Master of Divinity and Doctorate in Sacred Theology. Garrett honored him with the Distinguished Alumni Award in 2001.

Bishop Keaton and his wife Beverly have three children - Jonathan II, Tandreka, and Anaya – and one grandchild, Maliah Hope.

Having a bishop preach at SJA is a rare privilege – particularly someone as respected and gifted as Bishop Keaton. Join us in welcoming Bishop Keaton and in hearing God's word to us through his message.

I'll see you Sunday in worship.

Grace and peace, Steve