

WILLIAM WESLEY MORRIS

William Wesley Morris was born in Baltimore, Maryland and was educated in the Baltimore school system. He graduated from Ohio Wesleyan with an A.B. degree, Garrett Evangelical Theological Seminary with a B.D. degree, Scarritt College with an M.A. degree with distinction, and Vanderbilt University with a D.Min. degree.

While serving student appointments, Bill was ordained deacon in 1959 and elder in 1961. He served Bethany Methodist Church, Chicago, Illinois, Union Avenue Community Methodist Church, Chicago, Illinois; Christ Methodist Church, Chicago, Illinois; Stanley Methodist Church, Chattanooga, Tennessee; John Wesley United Methodist Church, Nashville Tennessee and First United Methodist Church, Gallatin, Tennessee. He also served as an Associate Council Director, Council Director and District Superintendent of the Clarksville and Murfreesboro Districts, and on the General Council on Ministries.

On July 15, 1992, he was elected a bishop of the United Methodist Church at the Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference, Lake Junaluska, North Carolina, where he was assigned to the Alabama-West Florida Area. In July of 2000, he was assigned to the Nashville Area. He served as president of the General Board of Pensions and Health Benefits from 2000 to 2004, and is currently a Trustee at Emory University.

He was married to the late Mary Head Morris of McMinnville, Tennessee, and they have four children: Loretta, Eva, Michael, and Mark. In 2006, he married Princilla Smart Evans.