

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE September 15, 2023 Contact: Mark Cobia
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Board of Trustees Approves New Members

Enterprise, FL – The Florida United Methodist Children's Home approved five new members to the Board of Trustees. The dedicated Board of the Children's Home is involved in all aspects of the ministry to ensure that as many children as possible are served. The following members were recently installed to the Board for three year terms.

Rev. Denvil Farley, Lead Pastor of the Port Charlotte Global Methodist Church since January 2019. Rev. Farley served as a Residential Child Care Specialist at the Children's Home from 2010 – 2011. After completing his seminary intern position at the Florida Conference of the United Methodist Church, he served as a pastor in North Carolina and Florida.

Rev. Rachel Lever, Retired Pastor of St. Peters United Methodist Church in Palm Beach Gardens. Originally from South Carolina, Rev. Lever earned her bachelors degree from Columbia College and a masters degree from Scarritt College.

Rev. Phillip Short, Senior Pastor of Southside United Methodist Church in Jacksonville. Short earned his BA degree from Auburn University, and his MDiv from Candler School of Theology, Emory University. He has been a United Methodist pastor since 1988.

Rev. Mike Toluba, Associate Pastor of Killearn Methodist Church in Tallahassee. Originally beginning his church career as a campus minister, Rev. Toluba has been with Killearn since 2020. He earned his Bachelor of Arts in History at Armstrong State Univeristy, and his Master of Divinity from Asbury Theological Seminary.

Rev. Charlie Watts, Pastor of the Mims Methodist Church in Mims. Starting his career in the funeral business, he became a pastor in 2005 and led Venus United Methodist Church in Venus, FL, as well as First United Methodist Church of Moore Haven. Rev. Watts has been with Mims UMC since 2019.

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For more information about the Florida United Methodist Children's Home, please contact Mark Cobia, Director of Marketing and Communications at 386.668.4774 or mark.cobia@fumch.org.

The Florida United Methodist Children's Home was established in 1908 in Enterprise, Florida on the banks of Lake Monroe. The Madison Youth Ranch, a second residential location, was added in 2014 in North Florida. The Children's Home provides services to families and children from childhood to adulthood, and is accredited by COA (Council on Accreditation), EAGLE (a program of the United Methodist Association of Health and Welfare Ministries), and is a member of the Alliance for Children and Families. Our Residential Care Program provides care and a family style home for school-aged children who have been victimized by abuse, neglect or family trauma, and provides education, counseling, as well as recreation and ministry opportunities. The Children's Home also provides Foster Care, an Independent Living Program as well as a Montessori-based early childhood program to the public through In As Much. The Children's Home is supported through the generosity of churches with the United Methodist Florida Conference, individuals and legacy gifts. For more information, visit www.fumch.org.