

**Albert T. Berry** – Mr. Berry is known to many as “Bert.” He has served one complete three year-term on the Diaconate Board, with two years as its treasurer. Mr. Berry has participated in and served as a presenter at marriage counseling sessions. Most recently he was a presenter at the engaged couples session.



Mr. Berry has also been the photographer for various church events and serves as an assistant to the church photographer.

He is a retired Detroit Public Schools educator. While in the school system, he accepted different responsibilities including a teacher, dean of students, and human resources administrator. Presently, Mr. Berry, has several hobbies include reading, photography, bicycling, harmonica playing and computer-related activities.

**Willie Bell** – Mr. Bell is the photographer for Plymouth’s website ([www.puccdetroit.org](http://www.puccdetroit.org)), and a member of the Plymouth Housing Board. He has been a member of the church’s missionary groups to West Africa and Ethiopia.



Mr. Bell has just begun his fifth term on the Diaconate (Deacon) Board, which means he has already served 12 years as a Deacon.

Mr. Bell is a retired Detroit Police Department Lieutenant who enjoys coaching basketball and track and field for middle and high school students. Reading, photography, sports and African American History are a few of his interests.

**Kathy Hooks Carrington** – Ms. Carrington serves the church by being a member of the Usher Board and the Consolation Ministry. She is a Deacon Emeriti (which means she has served four consecutive three-year terms).



Formerly, Ms. Carrington served as an assistant church clerk, president of the Usher Board, a member of the Board of Christian Education and as Sunday School Superintendent. She was instrumental in the creation of the Tape (now known as Media) Ministry. She has been a member of the church since birth.

Ms. Carrington is a State of Michigan retiree. She is an active member of the Eastern Star, The Order of the Golden Circle and the Daughter of Isis, Prince Hall Affiliation. She enjoys dancing and bowling.

**Shirley McRae, PhD** - Dr. McRae serves on Plymouth’s Celebration of Life, Scholarship and Constitution Revision Committees. She is also a member of the Pilot Club.



She has served one three-year term as a Deacon and is in the last year of her second term. She also served as a member of the Amistad Planning Committee.

Dr. McRae is a retired Detroit Public School Administrator. Her interests include macramé, arranging flowers, walking and reading.

**Johnella Moses** – Ms. Moses has been a member of the Plymouth’s Pilot



Club for the past nineteen years and has been its president for approximately twelve years. During her tenure the Pilot Club has honored many people -- ministers, doctors, lawyers, caterers, social workers, nurses and business people. She is also a member of the

Trustee Board and the Celebration of Life Committee. She has been a Deacon for three three-year terms (9 years).

Ms. Moses has served on the Christian Board of Education and other church boards, attended retreats and actively supported other clubs and groups within the church.

A former adjunct professor at Oakland Community College, she enjoys opera, playing bridge, home decoration, performing community service activities with the Links, and watching and solving suspense and mystery movies.

**James Collins, MD.** – Dr. Collins is a member of Plymouth’s Pilot Club and the Men’s Club. He is also a member of the Board of Directors of the Cyprian Center.



He has served as a member of the Diaconate (Deacon) Board for two three-year terms and is about to complete a third term. Dr. Collins is a former chairman and member of Plymouth’s

Board of Trustees.

He is a pediatrician and a member of the Children’s Hospital Staff and Professor of Pediatrics at Wayne State University’s School of Medicine.

**Michele Y. Edwards** – She has been a member of Plymouth since she was eight years of age. She is the current chairperson of Plymouth’s Diaconate (Deacon) Board and is about to complete her first three-year term as a Deacon. She is also a member of the Women’s Fellowship, Mother’s Day and Adult Literacy Committees.



Ms. Edwards handles the church’s publicity and planned the opening and closing ceremonies for the historic Amistad visit to Detroit. Additionally, she is a member of the Christian Nurture Division of the Detroit Metropolitan Association of United Churches of Christ.

Ms. Edwards is president and CEO of H. H. Edwards Companies, a marketing communications firm. Her interests are reading and collecting autobiographies, collecting movie classics and visiting museums

**Sara Ellis** – Ms. Ellis is a member of Plymouth’s Board of Trustees, Women’s Fellowship, Potpourri Bible Study, and co-coordinator of the weekly arrangement of flowers on the altar. She is also a member of the Nursing Home Ministry which serves at the Heatherwood Retirement Center.



Ms. Ellis has served two three-year terms on the Diaconate (Deacon) Board. During her tenure on that Board she served as a recording and corresponding secretary. She has also been a member of the Usher Board.

She is a retired Michigan Bell employee. Her interests are serving the church, reading, arts and crafts and preparing floral arrangements.

**Karen M. Estill** – Ms. Estill has served three three-year terms as a member of the Diaconate (Deacon) Board. She is also a member of the GoGetters Circle.



Karen is a life-long member of Plymouth United Church of Christ. She has followed in the tradition of her family. Her grandfather, Lucius S. Watkins, was a Deacon Emeritus and her mother, aunt and brother have also served on the Diaconate Board. Karen has also served twice as Chairperson of the Diaconate Board.

Karen is an educator and administrator with Detroit Public Schools. She enjoys reading and working on her computer.

**Mary Flowers** – Ms. Flowers has served one three-year term on the Diaconate (Deacon) Board. While being a member of that Board she was the organization’s recording secretary. She is also a member of the Women’s Fellowship Committee.



Ms. Flowers is the Pilot Club’s Hospitality Chair and a member of the Women’s Committee.

She is a Registered Nurse; she retired from the Macomb Intermediate School District last year. Ms. Flowers is an avid golfer and chaired Plymouth’s Golf Committee for eight years.

**George Hill, MD.** – Since 1978, Dr. George Hill has served as a Deacon for seven three-year terms equaling 21 years. He served as chairperson of the Diaconate (Deacon) board from 1995-1996 and is also a member of the Pilot club.



Within the church, he has established a reputation as an exemplary fundraiser. Dr. Hill worked with the Men’s Club to raise \$52,800 for the parking lot. He served as chairman of The Elevator Committee and the associate chair of the Cornerstone Project. He was instrumental in the selection of the architect, Harold Varner, for the church’s cornerstone.

Dr. Hill is a board certified surgeon; with a subspecialty in occupational and environment medicine.

**Wilburn Phillips** – Mr. Phillips has been a member of Plymouth United Church of Christ since 1949. At the time that he joined the church, it was known as Plymouth Congregational Church. He has served in numerous leadership positions including past secretary of the Deacon Board, chairman of the Trustee Board and a Lay Leader.



Mr. Phillips has served numerous terms on the Diaconate (Deacon) Board since 1957.

He is presently a broker/owner of Cape Code Realty in Saint Clair Shores. Mr. Phillips has an extensive history with Home Federal Savings Bank; he was the president/CEO and director emeritus, Board of Directors.

**Kevin Thompson** – Mr. Thompson is an active member of the Plymouth Ambassadors for Christ - known as the PAC. He recently completed a three-year term as a member of the Diaconate (Deacon) Board and served as a vice chairman for two years.



Mr. Thompson is presently employed with Daimler Chrysler power systems (Detroit Diesel) where he is in the Quality Assurance Department. He owns a small company, Flora-Flora, which specializes in landscapes, home renovations catering and event planning.

His personal interests are Koi husbandry, waterscaping (e.g. ponds, waterfalls), gourmet cooking and community activism.

## **PLYMOUTH UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

*Congregational*  
600 E. Warren Avenue Detroit, MI 48201



## **2006 Ordained Deacons**

**Rev. Nicholas Hood III, Senior Minister**

**Rev. Georgia Hill Thompson**  
Associate Minister

**Rev. Lee Brown Jr.**  
Assistant Minister of Outreach

**Rev. Dr. James Womack**  
Assistant Minister of Health and Wellness

**Rev. Dr. Nicholas Hood Sr.**  
Minister Emeritus

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