

Our Connectional Stories



BOARD OF ORDAINED MINISTRY

Isaiah Project

The Holy Spirit's call to be a pastor is both exciting and humbling. It is a vocation that I approach with some fear and trembling. Moreover, while necessary and formational, the intensive and rigorous academic life of divinity school is emotionally taxing. The Isaiah Project gave me a reprieve from scholarship and a chance to affirm my calling in a local church. Through my time at Middletown UMC, I was able to take the skills I had been given in seminary and utilize them for preaching the Good News of Jesus Christ and teaching about God's salvific work in the world. Because of the Isaiah Project, I was given the opportunity to practice "real ministry." If I am someday ordained as a United Methodist elder, I will be ordained to the ministry of word, sacrament, order and service. My invaluable experience with the Isaiah Project has provided me with the opportunity to engage in all four.

Additionally, the financial and scholarship assistance that was given through the Isaiah Project has helped me to participate fully in the life of Duke Divinity School. I am able to attend lectures, participate in service opportunities, and focus on my theological education in a way that would not be possible if I needed extra income from a part-time job. I believe the Isaiah Project was a means of grace and a means for God to provide. The money from the Isaiah Project has been a blessing in my life and will continue to plant seeds for the future of Christ's holy church. —Ron Beaton



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IN MINISTRY
TOGETHER
*Your giving through
Our Mission Covenant
makes connectional stories
like this one possible.*

✠
"...If any man will
come after me,
let him deny
himself, and take
up his cross, and
follow me."

— Matthew 16:24

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