

**Robert Stanley Wood**  
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Cordova, Tennessee 38016  
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(901) 737-9544 home  
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### **Education**

D.D. Bethel College, 1990  
D.Min. Vanderbilt Divinity School, 1981  
Project Report: *Toward the Development of a Curriculum Resource for Pre-Ordained Black Clergy*  
M.Div. Memphis Theological Seminary, with honors, 1970  
B.A. Bethel College, McKenzie, Tennessee, 1967  
Major: English  
Minors: Bible and Religion; Philosophy  
Named to "Who's Who in America's Colleges and Universities"  
Lettered in Baseball

### **Family**

Married to Patricia Wilkerson Wood (August 9, 1970 wedding date)  
Two children: Kevin Stuart and Diantha Celia

### **Ministerial Affiliation**

Ordained Minister, Cumberland Presbyterian Church in America  
Member of New Hopewell Presbytery, Tennessee Synod  
Ordained by Hiwassee Presbytery, September 1966

### **Employment – Memphis Theological Seminary**

- Vice President of Academic Affairs/Dean, September 2011-present
- Interim Vice President of Academic Affairs/Dean, Aug. 2010-August 2011
- Associate Dean, Memphis Theological Seminary, 2000-July 2010
- Clara Scott Associate Professor of Church and Ministry, MTS, 2006-present
- Associate Professor in Parish Ministry, MTS, 2004-2006
- Instructor in Parish Ministry, MTS, 1998-2004
- Director of Doctor of Ministry Program, MTS, 1998-present
- Editor of *The Memphis Theological Seminary Journal*

### **Previous Employment**

- General Assembly, Cumberland Presbyterian Church in America, Huntsville, Alabama  
*Title:* General Secretary/Stated Clerk 1979-1998  
*Title:* Director of Christian Education, 1973-1979
- Oak Ridge Associated Universities, Oak Ridge, Tennessee  
*Title:* Guidance Counselor, Training and Technology Project, 1970-1973

### **Selected Administrative Accomplishments at Memphis Theological Seminary**

- Served as Interim Dean, 1999-2000, and assumed full responsibility of that office for sixteen months
- Implemented and administered three successful Doctor of Ministry tracks – Leadership in Ministry, Faith and Health, Theology & the Arts; initiating a Korean-Language DMIN and a Preaching track
- Re-wrote *Project Directors' Handbook*, a resource for DMIN students working on their project in ministry
- As Director of the *LifeTime* program for four years, created and implemented 25 successful classes to churches in the Memphis area and in six CP presbyteries; planned and scheduled a series of Travel Study Seminars
- Mentored adjunct and new full-time faculty
- Functioned as Faith & Health liaison with community partners (Church Health Center, Methodist LeBonheur Hospital, and The African Religious Health Assets Program)
- Chaired the Student Affairs Sub-Committee, SAC/ATS Re-Affirmation
- As liaison with Board of Missions, CPC, implemented faculty travel study option at Cumberland Presbyterian mission centers; first trip taken by Bro. Jeffrey Gros to Colombia, South America
- As liaison with Board of Missions, CPC, participated on a four-member team to engage in conversations with Presbyterian leaders about the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, Seoul, South Korea, April 7-12, 2006. One tangible result of that consultation is the birth of a Korean-Language DMIN.
- Collaborated with Dean on a curricular revision plan – currently being utilized by faculty
- As editor of the seminary's scholarly publication, *The Memphis Theological Seminary Journal*, produced annual issues of the resource from 2000-present
- Served as Chair of the faculty for one year.

### **Selected Administrative Accomplishments in Other Contexts**

- General Secretary/Stated Clerk of the General Assembly, CPCA: served as the chief administrative officer for the denomination for nineteen years (1979-1998)
- Director of Christian Education of the General Assembly, CPCA: led the church's efforts in strengthening the educational arm of the denomination for six years (1973-1979)
- Member of Executive Committee of World Alliance of Reformed Churches (1982-2006)
- Caribbean and North America Area Council (CANAAAC) member and officer, 1970-2006). Served CANAAAC as its Area Secretary, CANAAAC, 1996-2006 – chief administrative officer for the eighteen-denomination organization
- Chair of National Council of Churches' organizations that focused on educational ministries to its member congregations:

- Chair of the Committee on the Uniform Series, an organization that planned the Sunday school studies for member denominations
- Chair of the Joint Educational Development (JED) Black Church Education Team, a partnership of nine denominations
- Chair of the Committee on Black Congregational Ministries

### **Other Service to the Seminary**

- Member, Board of Trustees, Memphis Theological Seminary (1971-1980; 1982-1989; moderator for 2 years)
- Starks' Scholarship Dinner Planning Committee, 1998-2009; co-chairperson, 2006-2008
- Chair, Holmes' Lecture Planning Committee, 2008-2013
- African American Advisory Committee, 2001 – present
- Admissions Committee, 2002 - present
- Curriculum Committee (co-chair), 2005 – present
- Planning and Evaluation Committee, 1999 – 2003
- Adjunct Faculty, MTS, 1992,1993,1994,1996

### **Pastoral Experience**

- Mt. Tabor Cumberland Presbyterian Church, Jackson, TN; May 2011-present
- Trinity Presbyterian Church, West Point, Mississippi; Sept. 2004-April 2011
- Chelsea Cumberland Presbyterian Church, Huntsville, Alabama;1989-2004
- Harmon Chapel Cumberland Presbyterian, Philadelphia, TN; 1986-1989
- Bethel Cumberland Presbyterian, Florence, Alabama; 1976-1982
- Second Congregational Church, Memphis, Tennessee; 1974-1976
- North Point Cumberland Presbyterian, Sweetwater, TN; 1970-1973
- First Cumberland Presbyterian, Kansas City, Missouri; Summer 1969
- Mt. Cumberland, Sweetwater, TN; 1966-1973
- Freedman Chapel Cumberland Presbyterian, Athens, TN; 1966-1972

### **Additional Service to the Cumberland Presbyterian Church in America**

- Moderator of (CPCA) Judicatories
  - Florence Presbytery (1980 – 1982)
  - Hiwassee Presbytery
  - Tennessee Synod
- President, National Sunday School Convention, CPCA, 1971-1974
- Editor, *The Cumberland Flag*, 1981-1997
- Member of Denominational Boards/Committees
  - Joint Committee on Unification, 1983-1990
  - Joint Committee on Cooperative Work, 1971-1974
  - Board of Publication and Christian Education, 1970-1974
  - Worship & Liturgy Committee, 1974-1988
  - Committee to Revise the *Confession of Faith*, (co-chairperson), 1978-1982

- General Assembly Executive Committee, 1971-1998
- Committee on the Uniform Series, 1979-1998 (chair of CUS, 1989-1992)
- Mission Worker, Colombia, South America, 1965

### **Resource to the Church-at-Large (Selected)**

- CPCA Delegate to the World Alliance of Reformed Church, 1970 – 2004
- Member of World Alliance of Reformed Churches' Executive Committee
  - Elected in Ottawa, 1982-1989 term
  - Re-Elected in Seoul, 1989-1997 term
  - Administrative Staff, 1997-2006
  - Attended General Council meetings in:
    - Nairobi (1970)
    - Ottawa (1982)
    - Seoul (1989)
    - Debrecen, Hungary (1997)
    - Accra, Ghana (2004)
- Participant in Consultations on Intersection of Faith and Mental Health, Vellore, India, December 1-7, 2007, and in Memphis, November 5, 2008, WCC consultations
- Consultant, Coalition of Appalachian Ministries (CAM), Morgantown, West Virginia, March 27-29, 2006
- Christian Education Workshops, First Missionary Baptist Church, Huntsville, Alabama, April 2005 and April 2006
- Church Officer Training Workshop leader/facilitator, New Hope CPCA, Madison, Alabama, January 26, 2008; April 26, 2008; September 26, 2008
- Baptist Association Workshop on Conflict Management, Reconciliation, and Harmony – held at Friendship Baptist, Memphis, September 27, 2008
- Workshops on Christian Spirituality, Oak Ridge CP, Oak Ridge, Tennessee, August 11-12, 2008; Red Bank CP, Chattanooga, TN, August 2007
- Consultant to National Council of Church's Committee on Black Congregational Ministries, Memphis, October 10, 2008
- Church Officer Training Workshop leader/facilitator, Ransom Temple CPCA, Nashville, November 15, 2008
- Lay Education Event, Beulah Baptist, Memphis, December 18-19, 2008
- Seven *LifeTime* workshops in various church settings, 2006-2010
- Guest Preacher for several congregations in the Memphis area, 1998-2010

### **Papers and Articles**

- Numerous articles in the church publication, *The Cumberland Flag*, during years as editor
- *Stewardship Education* (1974), *A People Holy unto the Lord* (1979), *These Ought Ye to Have Done and Not to Leave the Other Undone* (1985), thematic studies for the National Sunday School Convention of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church in America

- *As You Enter the Ministry*, a resource for candidates for the ministry, Cumberland Presbyterian Church in America
- *Good News Among Black Youth*, co-authored with Gayle Wood, a resource on ministry with black youth
- *Springing into Being*, a resource for the congregational youth fellowship, CPCA congregations, 1985
- *A Journey of Faith*, co-authored with Morris Pepper, a church new member resource, 1985
- *Tending the Sheep*, a pastor-shepherd handbook, 1986
- Winter 1991 and Fall 1993 Older Youth church school material for *Bible Discovery*, a church school quarterly for Presbyterian denominations
- Series of three Lectures on “History of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church in America,” Ingram Lectures, Memphis Theological Seminary, 1995
- *Encounter* (two issues, 1998 and 2006), adult Sunday School quarterly (CPC)
- “The Biblical Character of and Contextual Influence on Christian Ministry,” Bowen Lecture, Memphis Theological Seminary, 2004
- “Doctrine of the Scriptures,” article for the *Cumberland Presbyterian*, August 2005
- “Why I Am a Cumberland Presbyterian,” article for book on the bi-centennial celebration of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, 2010
- “Rev. James B. Sadler: Profile of a CPCA Leader in Texas,” paper presented to the Presbyterian Historical Society of the Southwest, March 6, 2010

#### **Courses Taught at MTS**

- PM 10000 Christian Ministry
- PM 02869 Church Management & Leadership Development
- PM 04237 Spiritual Theology and Parish Ministry
- AA 01569 African-American Worship & Congregational Life
- PM 02104 The Pastor’s Role
- PM 02405 Christian Stewardship
- PM 09999 Congregational Studies
- AA 03369 African-American Theology
- DM 00002 Discipleship of Minister and Congregation
- DM 00003 Congregational Studies
- PM 00099 Special Studies in Parish Ministry

**Dr. Robert Stanley Wood**, *Vice President of Academic Affairs/Dean, Director of the Doctor of Ministry Program, Clara Scott Professor of Parish Ministry, and Editor of The Memphis Theological Seminary Journal* joined the Memphis Theological Seminary community in July of 1998.

Prior to coming on board as an a faculty member and administrator, Dr. Wood served the seminary as an adjunct faculty member (1992-1997) and a Board of Trustees member (1971-1980; 1982-1989), serving two years as Moderator of the Board of Trustees.

He is an ordained minister in the Cumberland Presbyterian Church in America. He has served in ten pastorates since 1965. Since May 2011, he has been serving as the pastor of the Mt. Tabor Cumberland Presbyterian Church in America, Jackson, Tennessee.

Prior to his appointment at Memphis Theological Seminary, Dr. Wood was employed by the Cumberland Presbyterian Church in America as Director of Christian Education (1973-1979) and General Secretary/Stated Clerk (1979-1998), working in the denominational center in Huntsville, Alabama.

His work as a denominational employee afforded him a variety of experiences which have contributed to his career development. Some of the experiences include: editor of the monthly church newsmagazine from 1980-1998; chairperson of the National Council of Church's Committee on the Uniform Series, from 1989-1992; member of the (Geneva-based) World Alliance of Reformed Churches (WARC) Executive Committee, from 1982 to 2006, and Area Secretary for the Caribbean and North American Area Council of WARC from 1996 – 2006.

He received his Bachelor of Arts degree from Bethel College (McKenzie, TN) in 1967; his Master of Divinity degree in 1970 from Memphis Theological Seminary; his Doctor of Ministry degree from Vanderbilt University Divinity School in 1981. Bethel College awarded him an honorary Doctor of Divinity degree in 1990.

He and his wife, Patricia, have two adult children, Kevin and Diantha, and one grandson, Lance.