



## Reverend Dr. B. Kevin Smalls

### HOPE UMC Senior Pastor

**Reverend Dr. B. Kevin Smalls** is a native of Washington, DC. He is the only child of Emma Francine and the youngest child of Benjamin F. Smalls. Even as a youngster, Rev. Smalls always wanted to be a minister. He preached a five minute sermon in lay speaker school and that launched him as a young teenage preacher in various pulpits in the DC/Maryland area. At the age of 17, at Ebenezer United Methodist Church in Washington, DC, he preached his first Sunday morning sermon in February of 1987. His great uncle who was the pastor of Ebenezer began teaching Rev. Smalls the ways of the ministry, church and worship leading.

After graduating from Theodore Roosevelt High School, Rev. Smalls matriculated at Claflin University in Orangeburg, SC where he earned a Bachelor's Degree in History. Upon graduation from Claflin, he enrolled at the Interdenominational Theological Center in Atlanta Georgia where he earned the Master of Divinity Degree with a concentration in preaching and New Testament Studies. While in seminary, Rev. Smalls was a student lead pastor of Burns and St. Mary United Methodist Churches. Rev. Smalls holds a Doctor of Ministry Degree from United Theological Seminary where he focused on Post Modern Preaching to Contemporary Audiences with an emphasis on Hip Hop culture.

In 1997, Rev. Smalls was appointed to Jerusalem-Mt. Pleasant United Methodist Church, in Rockville, MD. During that appointment, he was ordained an elder in the United Methodist church by Bishop Felton Edwin May in 2000. In 2001, he was appointed to Hughes Memorial United Methodist Church in Washington, DC; and in 2005, Associate Council Director for the Baltimore-Washington Conference. In 2007, Rev. Smalls was appointed to Queen's Chapel United Methodist Church where church attendance has increased by 200 people and a 12,000 square foot edifice was completed in 2011. With the appointment season of 2014, Rev. Smalls was appointed to return to his home church of Ebenezer as its pastor while continuing to serve Queen's Chapel United Methodist Church. This multi-site partnership began July 1, 2014. On June 1, 2016,

Rev. Smalls is the founder of the Young Adult Christian Cafe', The Off the Hook Bible Study (for young(ish) adults), and serves on the Washington East District Committee on Ordained Ministry. He has written published articles in periodicals and a book entitled "Voices Crying Out in the Wilderness: Contemporary Theologies of Preaching," edited by Dr. Greg Howard; was honorably mentioned in a book entitled "Together for Good: Lessons from Fifty Five Years of Marriage" by Drs. Henry and Ella Mitchell and the second and third volume of "The Africana Worship Book."

Also, Rev. Smalls has served the general church as a Lina McCord Black College Fund ambassador for the eleven historically black institutions of higher education. He is currently a selected candidate to begin executive coach training with the General Board of Global Ministries and has completed his first tract. Additionally, he is a participant in the Northeastern Jurisdictional conversation with the United Methodist Commission on Religion and Race exploring ways to reach more people, specifically young people, and more diverse people in our local congregations

Rev. Dr. Smalls became the Senior Pastor of Hope United Methodist Church in Southfield, Michigan. Rev. Smalls has four children, Kevin Jr., Kailyn, Nicholas and Aiden.