

# Rev. Melissa A. Cooper

321-247-8080 | revmelissacooper@gmail.com

## Education/Ordination

<b>Ordained Deacon in Full Connection</b> - United Methodist Church	June 2011
<b>Master of Theological Studies</b> – Boston University School of Theology, Boston, MA Concentration: Ministry in Church and Society	2007-2009
<b>Bachelor of Arts</b> – Middle Tennessee State University, Murfreesboro, TN Major: English      Minors: Journalism, Religious Studies	2003-2007

## Employment

<b>Associate, Vibrant Faith</b> Serve as contract-based coach/consultant working with individuals, congregations and groups of churches to solve problems, develop plans and improve outcomes. I specialize in issues around intergenerational ministry and other cross-generational work.	2017-Present
<b>Coordinator of Specialized Ministries, Connectional and Justice Ministries, FL Conference of UM Church</b> Manage rotating programs and projects of Connectional and Justice Ministries, including Building a Beloved Community Inclusivity training and resources for the 600+ United Methodist Churches in the Florida Conference.	2017-Present
<b>Program Development Coordinator, Life Enrichment Center &amp; Warren Willis Camp, Fruitland Park, FL</b> After a merger between the two sites, I have taken on program development for both sites, overseeing program design and curriculum development for the now nearly 1,000-bed camp and retreat facility, serving thousands of program participants in 12+ annual programs, and retreat guests year-round. I retained my responsibilities in marketing, graphics, and consulting & training with local churches.	Jan-Oct 2017
<b>Program Coordinator, Life Enrichment Center, Fruitland Park, FL</b> As the first program staff member at the LEC, I developed a program ministry from the ground up, including four areas: LECFamily, intergenerational camps and resources; LECSpirit, adult spiritual formation; LEConnect, missions; and general program operations for guest groups, including teambuilding and recreational programs. I also provided graphic design and marketing support for the site, as well as serving churches through consulting and training in intergenerational ministry and program development.	Aug 2011-Dec 2016
<b>Faith Formation and Retreat Ministries Coordinator, Don Lee Center/Camp Don Lee, Arapahoe, NC</b> I oversaw all Faith Formation activities for summer camp and year-round operations, including education, worship and faith-related programming. I also managed all retreat operations - group acquisition, booking, scheduling, staffing, activities and event management.	June 2009-Aug 2011

## Leadership

<b>Florida Annual Conference (UMC) Expo Director</b> Organize and execute Expo for Florida Annual Conference session of 50+ local, state and national vendors, with 1500+ participants.	2016-Present
<b>InterGenerate Conference Task Force Member</b> Planned and executed a 200-participant international conference for academics and practitioners around the topic of intergenerational ministry. Served as Webmaster, Graphic Designer and Marketing Lead for the Task Force.	January 2016-Present (Latest conference held June 2017)
<b>Multicultural Resource Facilitator</b> - FL Conference UMC/Visions, Inc. Trained in multicultural communication and conflict transformation, as well as Transactional Analysis. MRFs lead workshops and trainings for clergy and laity in understanding, appreciating and utilizing diversity of all kinds in church and community, and combating racism, sexism, etc., in church and society.	2012-Present
<b>Florida Annual Conference (UMC) Board of Ordained Ministry</b>	2012-Present

# Speaking & Teaching

<b>Intergenerational Workshop Leadership and Church Consulting</b> – LECFamily	Ongoing
Workshops include “Generations 101,” “Reclaiming the Intergenerational Church,” “Keeping the Faith: Creating a Church for All Ages,” “Cross-Generational Communication,” “Intergenerational Worship,” and others. I work with individual churches and districts to offer these workshops for leadership, laity and clergy.	
<b>PechaKucha Presenter</b> - InterGenerate Conference, Nashville, TN	June 2017
<b>Keynote Speaker - Rooted Youth Ministry Conference</b> - California/Nevada Conference of the United Church of Christ, Long Beach, CA	March 2017
<b>Keynote Speaker - Beyond Children’s Ministry Conference</b> - Arkansas Conference of the UMC, Fayetteville, AR	February 2017
<b>“Why Intergenerational?” Workshop</b> - Florida-Bahamas Synod of the ELCA Synod Annual Assembly, Daytona Beach, FL	June 2016
<b>Workshop Leader/Presenter</b> - Christians Engaged in Faith Formation Conference, Nashville, TN Workshops include “Starting Intergenerational Ministry” and “Intergenerational Ministry from a Youth Perspective”	October 2016
<b>“Transitioning from Multigenerational to Intergenerational” and “Why Intergenerational?” Webinars</b> - Discipleship Ministries, National	February & April 2016
<b>Personnel Management Course Co-Instructor</b> - Compass Points Camp and Retreat Leadership Certification Program, National	September 2015
<b>Children’s Ministry Forum Presenter</b> - Discipleship Ministries/Large Church Initiative, Little Rock, AR Led pre-conference workshop “Why Intergenerational?” and conference workshops “Intergenerational Worship,” “Empowering Family Faith Formation,” and “Integrating Children into the Whole Church.”	November 2015

## Publications/Awards

<b>Distinguished Alumni: Emerging Leader</b> - Boston University School of Theology September 2017 Award and Panel Presentation: “The Three Greatest Challenges of the Next 10 Years”	2017
<b>Various Projects</b> - sparkhouse Sparkhouse is the ecumenical publishing division of Augsburg Fortress and develops curriculum for children, youth, adults and families. <b>Projects:</b> <i>re:form Traditions - Methodist</i> ; <i>re:form Ancestors</i> ; <i>Holy Moly!</i> ; <i>Whirl</i> ; <i>Colaborate: Lutheran</i> ; <i>Colaborate: Methodist</i> ; <i>Frolic</i> ; <i>Spark Family</i>	2010-present
<b>#pictureAdvent/#pictureLent</b> - <a href="http://www.pictureAdvent.com">www.pictureAdvent.com</a> / <a href="http://www.pictureLent.com">www.pictureLent.com</a> I developed the #pictureAdvent and #pictureLent programs, which provide liturgical and spiritual formation resources to churches, families and individuals during the seasons of Advent and Lent. These free resources provide a framework for churches to build intergenerational connections and for families to form faith together. Since 2014, more than 3,000 participants from around the world have used these daily devotions, family activities, youth group activities, or litanies as a part of their liturgical observances.	Advent 2014-Present

## Applicable Skills

<b>Graphic Design</b> - Proficient in Adobe Illustrator, Photoshop, Indesign, Acrobat
<b>Web Design</b> - Proficient with Squarespace platform