

LOWER HUDSON VALLEY COOPERATIVE PARISH Metropolitan District | New York Conference THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

## **ADVENT BIBLE STUDY**

## WHAT ABOUT US? WAITING AND HOPING IN AN AGE OF DESPAIR.



7:" PM EST WEDNESDAY DEC. 1<sup>ST</sup> | DEC. 8<sup>TH</sup> | DEC. 15<sup>TH</sup>

## LED BY REVEREND DR. PAMELA LIGHTSEY Author & Activist

Pre Registration is required:

https://usf2web.mom.us/meeting/negister/iZAndef.pqT4iH9xFUCdNBGOEj\_weg8AkVO3E

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting,

Dr. Pamela Lightsey has a stellar history as a senior administrator and scholar in higher education. She currently serves as Vice President for Academic Affairs at Meadville Lombard Theological School and Associate Professor of Constructive Theology. Before her appointment at Meadville, she was Associate Dean at Boston University School of Theology. She is also an ordained elder in the Northern Illinois Conference of the UnitedMethodist Church.

Dr. Lightsey is a womanist theologian who has lectured at schools within and outside the continental United States. She has served as co-chair of the American Academy of Religion's Womanist Approaches to Religion and Society Group. She is currently a member of the Workgroup on

Constructive Theology. Dr. Lightsey is an honorably discharged veteran of the United States Army. She served as a member of the original executive committee for the Soul Repair Project, which studies the role of moral injury inmilitary veterans.

As an activist, Dr. Lightsey has worked within the LGBTQ community to end Don't Ask, Don't Tell military policy, and to ensure marriage equality. She continues to critique churches for homophobic polity, liturgy, and homiletics. Pamela was on the ground protesting against excessive police force during the first 21 days of unrest in Ferguson andacross one year was one of several livestreamers providing ongoing broadcasts. Her work is the largest video archive on this historic time captured live by a solo African American theologian in the country. Dr. Lightsey has consistently collaborated with activist- colleagues in the movement for the liberation of Black lives, those addressing violence against Black transwomen, and institutional racism on college campuses. She currently serves as a member of Chicago Mayor Lori Lightfoot's Advisory Council on LGBTQ+ issues. She is also the founder and CEO of the Blaque Political Collective, a nonprofit dedicated to Black LGBTQ+ social justice advocacy.

As ordained clergy, Rev. Dr. Lightsey is among the leading voices fighting for LGBTQ rights in the United Methodist Church. She was the first out queer lesbian African American ordained elder in full connection in the denomination. As United Methodismfaces schism, Rev. Dr. Lightsey - understanding the subtle work of racism in times of crisis - is coordinating with other LGBTQ persons of color to ensure their lives are not made subordinate to the needs of white LGBTQ persons.

Pamela's several publications include the full manuscript, "Our Lives Matter: A WomanistQueer Theology" (Wipf and Stock, 2015), Transforming Service: Reflections of Student Services Professionals in Theological Education. Editors Shonda R. Jones & Pamela R. Lightsey. (Wipf and Stock, 2020). "He Is Black and We are Queer" in Albert Cleage Jr and the Black Madonna and Child (New York: Palgrave Macmillan), "Blinking Red: The Escalation of a Militarized Police Force and Its Challenges to Black Communities" (Lexington Books, 2019).