

REV. ADRIENNE BREWINGTON



Born in Queens, Rev. Brewington was raised in Lakeview, Long Island in New York. After being graduated from Malverne High School, Rev. Brewington attended Fordham University College at Lincoln Center, where she majored in Theater. After obtaining her Bachelor of Arts degree from Fordham University in 1980, Rev. Brewington attended Rutgers University School of Law in Newark, New Jersey. There, she was awarded a Juris Doctor degree in 1987.

As a practicing attorney, Rev. Brewington held several positions in the public sector. On this journey, she served as an Assistant District Attorney in Bronx County, where she prosecuted sex crimes and crimes against children as well as litigated state and federal appeals; an Assistant District Attorney in Suffolk County, New York, litigating state and federal appeals; and an Assistant New York State Attorney General litigating consumer protection matters. In June, 2000, she completed a 4-year term working in private practice in the law office operated by her husband, civil rights attorney Frederick K. Brewington. Later that same month, Rev. Brewington was awarded a Master of Divinity Degree, Summa Cum Laude, by New Brunswick Theological Seminary in New Jersey, which also honored her as the member of the graduating class who best illustrated and created a spirit of koinonia among the student body.

While still a practicing attorney, Rev. Brewington served as pastor of the First United Methodist Church of Hollis, in Queens. During her tenure, she was able to strengthen the congregation's financial stability as well as guide it toward deeper spiritual formation and more faithful articulations of Methodism. Thereafter, Rev. Brewington served the Westbury United Methodist Church on Long Island for eight years. While at Westbury UMC, Rev. Brewington instilled a spirit of loving Christian fellowship and permission giving that resulted in lay persons becoming proactively and enthusiastically engaged in the life and ministry of the congregation. As a result, she was able to lead God's people to financial stability, vibrant, blended worship, increased membership, increased worship attendance, deeper spirituality that was acted out in the congregants' daily lives, significantly more active and more relevant missions work, an increased programming budget that focused on the area of Christian education for people of all ages and the beginning of a much needed building project. During that same time period, she also successfully guided the congregation through the challenges of transitioning from being a predominantly Anglo congregation to being a congregation comprised primarily of people from the African diaspora.

In keeping with her calling, Rev. Brewington was ordained an Elder in full connection with the United Methodist Church in June, 2003. On July 1, 2008, Rev. Brewington ended her richly blessed tenure as pastor of the Westbury United Methodist Church and assumed the position of District Superintendent of the Long Island East District of the New York Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church. Koinonia and commitment to the cause of Christ have been the hallmark's of Rev. Brewington's superintendency ministry. As a result, the overall ministry of the District has been enhanced and strengthened. Rev. Brewington has served as Dean of the Cabinet for the past four years.

In addition to her pastoral responsibilities, Rev. Brewington has often been a guest preacher/speaker for a number of churches and community organizations. Moreover, she has provided service to a large, eclectic community in various ways. She has served on the Board of Directors of the Long Island Children's Museum, the Board of Directors of the Unified New Cassel Community Revitalization Corporation, the Parish Resource Center and the Long Island Council of Churches Western Area Steering Committee. She has been Secretary and Vice-president of the Board of Trustees of the New York Annual Conference of the United

Methodist Church; chairperson of the New York Annual Conference Rules Committee; and part of the Conference training team on the Boundaries and Sexual Ethics Committee. She has participated in the activities of the Task Force on Cross-Cultural/Cross Racial Appointments of the New York Annual Conference, and has chaired the Spiritual Life and Worship Committee of the Long Island West District of the United Methodist Church. In addition, Rev. Brewington served on the NYAC's delegation to the 2012 General/Jurisdictional Conferences. She was an alternate delegate to the 2008 Jurisdictional Conference and is currently an alternate delegate to the 2016 Jurisdictional Conference .

Asked what she feels is her most important community contribution, Rev. Brewington had this to say: "While God has gifted me for ministry in many ways, I believe that before I am anything else, I am a preacher and teacher – a purveyor of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. When I bring the Gospel, I bring the transformative power of God to any who will hear and believe. It is axiomatic to me that as people change for the better, the world changes for the better. Through the preaching and the teaching, the hearing and believing, God's new order comes closer – one person at a time, one heart at a time."

You can access more information about Rev. Brewington at AdrienneBrewington.com. There you can read her blog and selected sermon manuscripts as well as view pictures and videos.