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The United Methodist Church

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**Bishop of the Wisconsin Conference
1992 – 2004**



Bishop Sharon Zimmerman Rader

Sharon Zimmerman Rader was elected a bishop of The United Methodist Church by the North Central Jurisdictional Conference meeting at Adrian, Michigan in July, 1992, and assigned to be the presiding bishop of the Wisconsin Annual Conference. She was reassigned to the Wisconsin Annual Conference for a third four-year term at the 2000 Jurisdictional Conference.

Bishop Rader is a graduate of Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary and North Central College, and received an honorary doctorate from Adrian College. She was ordained a Deacon in the Detroit Conference and an Elder in the Northern Illinois Conference, and has served parishes in Northern Illinois and West Michigan. She has been a part of the West Michigan Conference Staff and was Superintendent of the Grand Rapids District at the time of her election. She currently serves as Secretary to the Council of Bishops.

Bishop Rader is married to Dr. Blaine Rader, a pastoral counselor and clergy member of the West Michigan Conference. They are parents of two grown children, Matthew and Mary, and two grandchildren, Ethan and Abigail.

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