

Candace M. Lewis is first woman to lead Gammon Theological Seminary

by [Dawn Araujo-Hawkins](#) in the [March 24, 2021](#) issue



(Photo courtesy of Gammon Theological Seminary)

Candace M. Lewis has been named president-dean of Gammon Theological Seminary in Atlanta, the first woman to serve in that role in the school's 138-year history.

Lewis, an ordained elder in the Florida Conference of the United Methodist Church, most recently served as executive director of the denomination's national resource for church planters. Previously, she was a district superintendent in the Florida Conference and the founding pastor of New Life Community United Methodist Church in Jacksonville, Florida.

She graduated from Gammon in 1996 with a master of divinity. She also holds a doctorate in church leadership from Wesley Theological Seminary.

"We are excited for this historic milestone," said Mackie H. Norris, chair of the search committee, in a statement. "We pledge our support to Dr. Lewis and offer a

spirit of collegiality as we together embrace the present and the future at ‘The School of the Prophets.’”

“I am ready to begin my tenure as the 17th president and dean of my alma mater,” Lewis said in a statement. “God has entrusted me with innovative, visionary, strategic leadership at this critical time. I look forward to . . . creating new, collaborative partnerships.”