

Thank You to Authorized Ministers Celebrating Ordination Anniversaries



One of the traditions in KO is to recognize milestone ordination anniversaries at annual meeting. While calling a name and handing out a certificate is a small gesture, this is one of those times that it really is the thought that matters. Authorized

ministers don't serve for the recognition but **taking the time to say thank you matters**. Sure, in times of crisis, or in extraordinary circumstances, we usually remember to say thank you, but often in "ordinary time" we can forget about the sacrifices that authorized ministers make to serve the church as pastor and teacher, as chaplains in hospitals, nursing homes, prisons and the military. We forget the family sacrifices, the prayers at bedsides, the calls they take, the thousands of sermons they labor over, the heavy confidence they carry. Yes, there are joys as well, but it is a challenging call.

The list below indicates the names and years of ordination of those being honored this year. You will see that they range from 60 years of ordained ministry to 10. While many are no longer serving in a formal capacity my guess is that they all find ways to continue to embody what ordination means in their lives.

Having been ordained for 60 years, Jack Ulmer now holds the distinction of the person serving ordained for the longest time in KO. Jack has also served his entire ministry in Kansas-Oklahoma and all but a few years at Evangelical UCC in Marysville, KS. Evangelical UCC was the first church Jack served, and this is where his membership remains. After being interrupted by the pandemic and some health issues, Jack will resume

teaching an adult Sunday school class on October 1st. This is not the kind of story you hear often!

Ordination certificates will be mailed to all authorized ministers this year as again we aren't able to be together physically. The recognition of ordination anniversaries will be part of our worship on Thursday evening. Congratulations and thank you to all of our authorized ministers being recognized for their ordination anniversaries.

Authorized Minister and Number of Years Ordained

Jerome Ulmer	60	William C. Brown	55
Loren W. Hickerson	55	Robert P. Speer	55
David Phillips Hansen	50	Don W. Miller	50
Ira Samuel Williams Jr	50	Jeff Starkey	40
Gary Blaine	30	Joie Webb	25
Janet Weiblen	25	Jane Ho	20
Rachael Pryor	10	Jerry Scribner	10