



## Hope Hutchinson, Ordained Deacon

**Attended seminary at:** Methodist Theological School in Ohio (Delaware, OH)

**Interests:** Spending time outside with my husband and my cat, hiking, biking, figuring out how to connect faith formation to social justice movements

**My call to ministry story:** I grew up as a pastor's kid in a United Methodist church and heard many people both jokingly and seriously tell me that I would be a minister. I came to accept my call as a sophomore in college. I knew that I felt called to serve as a deacon in a more specialized role, but for many years I felt pulled in two directions: faith formation ministry and social justice ministry. It was through many conversations with clergy mentors that I was able to find a way to connect the two. When I started to articulate my call to do faith formation in ways that help Christians connect to social justice movements that they are passionate about, I knew that I had found my calling.

**A bit about my church and community:** I serve at Richfield UMC in Minneapolis as the director of children, youth, family, and outreach ministries. Our mission as a church is to live in faith, justice, and joy, and I am thrilled to see and be part of that every week.

**What I appreciate about being part of the Minnesota Conference:** I actually started my candidacy in the California-Pacific Conference where I grew up. But after spending several years in the Midwest for both college and seminary, I realized pretty quickly that the Minnesota Conference was the right fit for me because every person I met with made me feel welcome and helped me connect with new people, many of whom have become mentors and good friends. I love serving here because my clergy colleagues really feel like my extended chosen family. This support system has been so important for me, both to celebrate the fun times, and to lean on when things are more difficult.



**Minnesota  
Annual Conference**  
of the United Methodist Church