



# CandlerNEWS



JUNE 2025

## **Candler Celebrates, Sends Forth Class of 2025**

Candler bid Godspeed to its 110th graduating class during a joyful (and rainy!) Graduate Recognition Ceremony held on Saturday, May 10 in Glenn Memorial United Methodist Church on the Emory campus. Faculty, staff, alumni, family, and friends gathered to honor the hard work and dedication of our newest graduates, who now go forth to make their change in the world. Congratulations and welcome to our 128 newest alumni! [Read more about the ceremony here.](#)

## **Love Honored with Emory's Thomas Jefferson Award**

At Emory's Commencement ceremony on May 12, **Jan Love**, professor of Christianity and world politics and Candler's dean from 2007-2024, was honored with the Thomas Jefferson Award, presented to a faculty member or administrative officer for significant service to the university through personal activities, influence and leadership. [Read the full story on her many contributions to Candler and Emory.](#)

## **Rooted in Legacy, Rising in Her Own Calling**

Candler's Class of 2025 includes **Joy Ducree Gregory**, who was selected as an outstanding featured graduate representing Candler in Emory's annual graduation coverage. Ministry has always been part of Joy's journey—from leading and singing in worship to her Candler-inspired calling to serve as a minister for performing artists. With her graduation from Candler, she expands on the legacy of her father, the Rev. **Edward Ducree 68T**, who was Candler's first Black graduate. [Read more about Joy's journey of perseverance and faith.](#)

## **Amey Victoria Adkins-Jones Joins Candler Faculty**

Dean Jonathan Strom has announced that **Amey Victoria Adkins-Jones** has joined the Candler faculty as assistant professor of theology and Africana studies. She will begin teaching in fall 2025. Adkins-Jones comes to Candler from Boston College, where she served as assistant professor of theology and African and African diaspora studies. A constructive theologian and scholar of Black religion, she specializes in Mariology, Black feminist and womanist thought, and theological anthropology. [Read more about Adkins-Jones.](#)

## **Reynolds, Alonso Serve as Key Voices in Papal Commentary**

In the wake of Pope Francis's death, the papal conclave, and the election of Pope Leo XIV, Associate Professor of Catholic Studies **Susan Reynolds** and Aquinas Associate Professor of Theology and Culture **Antonio Alonso** have been widely featured by numerous media outlets as key voices in the conversation about the future of the Catholic Church. [Watch, read, and listen to their media appearances.](#)

## **Faculty Awarded Research Grants for Innovative Projects**

Candler faculty members **Elizabeth Corrie**, **Joel LeMon**, **Susan Reynolds**, and **Deanna Womack** have recently been awarded grants to pursue their latest research across theology, worship, migration, and climate justice. [Learn more about their grants and projects.](#)

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Please note that events are subject to change. Click on the event title to see more details and registration information. [See a full listing of upcoming Candler events here.](#)

**Mondays, June 9-30:** [Online Course "How to Teach the Bible"](#) with The Candler Foundry

**Tuesdays, July 8-29:** [Online Course "Revelation and the Revealed Jesus"](#) with The Candler Foundry

**Ongoing: Candler Clubs**-Candler Clubs provide an opportunity for alumni to gather during summer denominational conferences. Enjoy a meal together, connect with Candler faculty or staff members, and hear the latest news about the school. All Candler alumni and students are welcome at any event regardless of denominational affiliation. [Learn more and register for your Candler Club here.](#)

**June 7:** Missouri Conference, UMC

**June 9:** Alabama-West Florida Conference, UMC

**June 9:** South Carolina Conference, UMC

**June 10:** Kentucky Conference, UMC

**June 13:** North Georgia Conference, UMC

**June 13:** Virginia Conference, UMC

**June 19:** Western North Carolina Conference, UMC

**June 24:** AME North Georgia Conference

**Ongoing: Glenn Memorial UMC Summer Lecture Series**

*Sundays, June 8–July 27, 9:45–10:45 a.m. In person, Glenn Memorial UMC, 1660 North Decatur Road, Atlanta, 30307*

This annual series features conversations with faculty from Candler School of Theology and other guest speakers. This year's theme explores the Scriptures and Methodist church history to answer what it means to live faithfully in belief and action. [See the full lineup here.](#)

CLASS  
NOTES

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