

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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Director of Public Relations

## **REV. BRIAN GENTLE, REV. WESLEY BROWN TO ADDRESS WINTER GRADUATES AT METHODIST COLLEGE**

**FAYETTEVILLE, NC**—The Rev. Wesley F. Brown, associate dean for external relations at Duke University Divinity School, will give the commencement address at Methodist College's 29th winter commencement exercise Friday, Dec. 14 at 2 p.m. in Reeves Auditorium. Approximately 131 students are slated to receive degrees.

An ordained elder in the United Methodist Church and a 1973 graduate of Methodist College, Rev. Brown received his Master of Divinity degree at Duke in 1976 and was appointed assistant to the dean for development at The Divinity School in 1981. Methodist College President M. Elton Hendricks will award Brown an honorary Doctor of Divinity degree at the commencement.

The Rev. Dr. Brian Gentle, pastor of Haymount United Methodist Church in Fayetteville, will deliver the baccalaureate sermon at 10:30 a.m. A native of Melbourne, Australia, Dr. Gentle holds a B.A. degree from Wheaton College, a B.D. from Yale University, an M.A. from Columbia University, and a Ph.D. from Duke University. He has pastored five United Methodist churches in the North Carolina Conference and one in the New York Conference; he has also taught at Duke University Divinity School and at Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary in Wake Forest, N.C.