

# Courageous Conversations Video Links

[Courageous Conversations Trailer](#) (length 5:56)

YouTube link: <https://youtu.be/Hw3Hc8JcumY>

*Short preview of the seven Courageous Conversation Interviews.*

[Session One-](#) Ed Yokley (length 18:00)

YouTube link: [https://youtu.be/\\_TcJoFXP-p8](https://youtu.be/_TcJoFXP-p8)



**Dr. Ed Yokley** is an internationally recognized chemical, materials science, and business innovator. He is a holder of more than a dozen US Patents and Applications and a founder of four technology-based companies. He has a wide range of interests in music, the arts, social and environmental justice and public affairs. He is an active member and Ruling Elder of North Anderson Community Church, Presbyterian, and served as a Commissioner to the 2022 PCUSA General Assembly.

[Session Two-](#) Bessie Black (length 20:41)

YouTube link: <https://youtu.be/nLh6t75PSFE>

**The Reverend Bessie L. Black** serves as the Stated Supply Pastor at Westminster Presbyterian Church, Spartanburg, S.C., since 1999. She received her Master of Education from the University of South Carolina. Bessie spent most of her career as a rehabilitation counselor/project supervisor for the state of South Carolina. Later, after receiving her Master of Divinity degree from Gardner-Webb University, she has used her gifts to spread the word of God in Spartanburg and surrounding areas. Bessie is married to Deacon Izell Black, and has one granddaughter, Lauren Rogers, and two adult daughters, Karen Black Rogers (Thomas E. Rogers) and Michelle Black.

[Session Three-](#) Minnie Thomas (length 20:10)

YouTube Link: <https://youtu.be/B-8MDmu2pzE>

**Minnie Fields Thomas** is a native Greenvillian, where she attended the historic Sterling High School. In her retirement years she enjoys volunteering with a local nonprofit. She likes to spend time with her friends and family, including her beloved grandchildren.

[Session Four-](#) Lerone Wilder (length 24:03)

YouTube Link: <https://youtu.be/G6ILAXMeiO8>

**The Reverend Dr. Lerone Jonathan Wilder** is the Pastor of the historic Mattoon Presbyterian Church in Greenville, SC. He is also Chair of the Foothills Presbytery Anti-Racism Ministry Team and Acting Chair of the Foothills Black Presbyterian Caucus. In addition, he serves as an Assistant Professor, Program and Assessment Coordinator of Religion at Newberry College in Newberry, SC.

Session Five- Karen Black Rogers (length 22:51)

YouTube Link: [https://youtu.be/sAV\\_XtI71FM](https://youtu.be/sAV_XtI71FM)

**Karen Black Rogers** is a graduate of South Carolina State University and holds a Masters and Education Specialist degrees from Converse College. Her passion is to educate people on how to use their skills and talents as they become what God has inspired them to do in their lives. As a former educator and administrator, Karen has worked in the school system. Currently, she provides online instruction and proofreading services to those who are working on their initial college and doctoral degrees. Karen is the oldest daughter of Rev. Bessie Black, and has a sister, Michelle Black. She is married to Thomas and has one daughter, Lauren.

Session Six- Kim Smith (18:51)

YouTube Link: <https://youtu.be/BR7x6XiHFWs>

**Dr. Kim Smith** an elder at Bethesda Presbyterian Church in Gaffney, S.C. He received his bachelor's at Howard University and master's and Ph.D. from the University of South Carolina. Kim is an award-winning educator, innovator, and higher education leader with a proven track record in student success, faculty mentorship, and impactful research. His research has been published in such journals as *Journalism & Mass Communication Educator*, the flagship journal of the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication.

Session Seven- Frank Clark (length 29:16)

YouTube Link: <https://youtu.be/20opkG16JIE>

**Dr. Frank Alexander Clark** is a board-certified adult outpatient psychiatrist at Prisma Health-Upstate. He also serves as clinical associate professor at the University of South Carolina School of Medicine-Greenville. Dr. Clark is prolific poet who uses his creative side to provide a voice and raise awareness for issues pertaining to mental health and diversity, equity, and inclusion.